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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13TH 2016

GEM HOMES & GARDENS Page 19

The Glamorgan GEM are about to make getting the latest news from the Vale and Bridgend much easier.... November 1

REDUNDANCIES AT BRITISH AIRWAYS? Page 24

CHRISTMAS PARTY GUIDE Page 25

Toddlers get a royal thank you!

LAST June, the Mother and Toddler group at St Michael's Church, Colwinston, helped at a service to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday.

Afterwards, cards the children made, along with a photograph, were sent to Buckingham Palace.

"We have received a letter of thanks from Her Majesty and the attached card. Well done to all the children!" a school spokesperson said.

ABOVE: The children celebrate the special card from Buckingham Palace.

Mammoth amount of money is raised in memory of Helen

FOLLOWING the loss of their sister, Helen Phillips, to cancer in September 2014, the Thomas family from Pengelli Farm, Pendoylan, have raised £40,000 for Velindre.

Helen, the youngest of five girls, was married to Nic Phillips, who kickstarted the fundraising campaign by completing the Wales Ironman at Tenby in 2015, fitting in his training whilst bringing up his two young daughters, Alys and Isobelle.

This was followed up by the Wildflower Ball, held in Helen's memory at Hensol Castle, on March 11 – on what would have been her 40th birthday – which she shared with her twin sister Kay. The ball was an outstanding success, selling more than 500 tickets.

Nic was joined by a second brother-in-law, Phil Thomas, a local businessman, on a string of sporting events during the summer of 2016.

It began with the World Half Marathon in Cardiff and continued with the Tour of Pembroke, The Velathon, The Dragon Ride, The Mumbles Triathlon, Long Course Weekend in Tenby, Ride the Rockies, and finished with the Cardiff Half Marathon on October 2.

On September 13, Nic, Phil and a third brother-in-law, Paul Collingridge, had joined the Velindre team of 20 cyclists on a quest to 'Ride the Rockies' in Banff National Park, Alberta, Canada.

This was an organised event held by Velindre with supporting vehicles and was the second of two groups, with the first party already back on British shores.

The boys met the Velindre party in Heathrow, from where they flew out to Calgary. A quick transfer on a bus and then one and a half hours later, they were being fitted out for their bikes in Canmore.

Left to right: Paul Collingridge, Nic Phillips and Phil Thomas.

The ride was over five days travelling from Canmore to Jasper on cycle tracks, dirt tracks and the highway.

The scenery was magnificent and the group was fortunate to see elk and a grizzly bear whilst conquering the Rockies.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address and a contact telephone number.

An email address alone is not sufficient!

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'Bloated councils system goes on'

SO Corbynite Mark Drakeford, AM has yet again decided to put the interests of the Labour Party before those of the electorate – by this time ignoring the evidence of the Williams Commission to impose a reduction in the number of Welsh councils.

We will continue with the bloated, inefficient model of council representation, which rewards the careers of the party faithful whilst crippling the rest of us with ever-increasing tax bills – and ever-reducing levels of service – whilst denying us electors a say on the issue.

When will the Welsh electorate wake up from the 1980s, realise that King Coal is dead and vote for a party that will address our accelerating decline in relation to the rest of the UK?

Ian Williams,
Llangrallo.

Macmillan charity says 'thank you'

MACMILLAN Cancer Support in Wales would like to extend its thanks to your readers for their incredible support of this year's World's Biggest Coffee Morning.

Now in its 26th year, thousands of coffee mornings were held in schools, workplaces, community centres and homes all over Wales on and around Friday, September 30.

We have loved seeing so many fantastic photos of cakes over social media. This year has seen some wonderfully creative cakes and events. But more than that, we have loved seeing families, friends, colleagues and communities coming together for a coffee, a slice of cake and a chat, in support of Macmillan.

World's Biggest Coffee Morning is Macmillan's biggest annual fundraising event. Last year, we raised more than £26m – a total we hope to have beaten in 2016.

One in three of us will get cancer, with more than 130,000 people in Wales currently living with and beyond cancer.

The money raised will help us continue to provide services in Wales, including funding our nurses, physiotherapists, welfare benefits advisers and our information centres in some of Wales' hospitals, as well as campaigning for better cancer care for patients.

Susan Morris,
Head of services, Macmillan Cancer Support in Wales.

Penarth event raised £450

THE Macmillan Coffee Morning held on Saturday, September 24 in the Lesser Hall, Victoria Square, Penarth, raised £450.

Thank you to everyone who came and supported us. A big thank you also to local traders who donated raffle prizes: Luxe Beaute and Lana Beautique, The Florist Stanwell Road, Shaws, Thompsons Butcher, Umpa Lumpa Sweet Shop, Wood Street Post Office, and Purcell Stores.

Unclaimed raffle prizes: Yellow 707, 708, 715. Green 533. Please contact 029 2071 1657.

Mary Thomas,
Penarth

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VALE SHOULD MONITOR COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE RECORD – *INDEPENDENT*

Call for greater transparency that fell on deaf ears

I WOULD like to respond to the comments made by Plaid Cymru's Nic Hodges in The GEM last week, with regard to my call for greater public transparency through the recording of councillors' votes – for future examination and justification to the public.

Having presented my motion for a comprehensive discussion and vote by full council, only to see it hijacked and diverted to a different committee chaired by its most vociferous opponent in Mr Hodges, with regard to my request for transparency, there clearly was little point in pursuing the matter – given that every councillor on his committee failed to support my motion.

My conclusion, of course, was proved correct when every councillor present at the subsequent full council (bar myself and two other Independents) voted to oppose my recorded votes motion.

Also in response to Mr Hodges' other comments, I would point out that clearly displayed on my councillor website is my record of 100 per cent attendance at full council meetings over the last four and a half years, which is in stark contrast to that of a number of his Plaid colleagues.

I now intend to present a motion calling for the Vale Council to display the full record of all ward councillors' attendance records on its website – to be updated monthly – in order that residents can monitor the attendance levels of their councillors.

One would hope Coun Hodges will support the motion that might help boost the levels of attendance of his own party members.

I will also be calling for reasons why councillors showing up for meetings are being recorded as present – before leaving early – which appears to have become an increasing trend.

Thanking you for this opportunity to put the record straight.

Kevin Mahoney,
Independent councillor Sully and Lavernock)

'Defibrillator sites need to be more widely publicised'

WELL done to Tom Wood, who, as reported in The GEM, acted quickly to get a defibrillator to assist someone who had collapsed.

This story coincides with what Llantwit First Independents and the town council are doing to provide information on the whereabouts of defibrillators in the town.

If we did a poll, we would probably find that few people would know how to get hold of such a potentially life-saving machine when needed.

If there are insufficient in the town, then we must find ways of providing more, either by donation, public subscription, or the council as part of its 'Wellbeing' initiatives.

We are trying to locate all defibrillators in the town, and, with the cooperation of local traders, advertise in shop windows, and on council noticeboards, the whereabouts of these machines.

It is vital we know where and when these machines are available in the evenings and weekends.

It was fortunate that the police station was able to help, but it is not always manned.

The Rugby Club, which also holds a machine, is open most evenings, but the surgeries are not. A similar scheme operates very successfully in Builth Wells.

It is essential that we create a system that publicises the availability of these machines, and we as a committee are currently working to achieve this.

Coun Jayne Norman,
Chair, Wellbeing Committee, Llantwit Major Town Council.

'Disgusted' by planning move

AFTER my comments last week re the planning application for Durrell Street, there was a site meeting held by the planning committee from the VOG.

Llantwit Major Vale councillors, together with local town councillors, were there to explain the difficulties that would be caused by the development of this particular site.

That evening, the Vale planning committee met to discuss this proposal, which was passed by a majority of 14 to 1.

I am disgusted by the planning committee members who made this decision without even visiting the site – therefore, they would have no idea of the complications this build will have upon the town.

Only four planning committee members came to the site, the other 17 couldn't, or wouldn't, attend the site meeting.

As we pay all these councillors, I feel they should be duty bound to attend a contentious planning application, which will have an enormous effect on the residents of the town.

I would like to say thank you to Vale councillor Eric Hacker for standing up for the townsfolk, even though it was to no avail.

Coun Jeff Evans.

Lest we forget... those who went over the top

ON October 7, I was privileged to return to the memorial at Thiepval on the Somme, commemorating the names of over 72,000 of those who died in the Battle of the Somme between July 1, 1916 and the end of the battles in November of that year.

A simple service is held daily, with the Last Post being sounded, and I was able to lay a wreath in memory of my grandfather, who had 'gone over the top' and was killed on October 7, 1916...just 100 years ago to the day.

At this time of year, we remember, through the Royal British Legion, those who died in that war and subsequent wars.

My wife and I are members of the Cowbridge branch of the British Legion.

As the launch of the appeal takes place, I urge all of you to buy poppies and remember 'my grandfather', and all the other men and women who gave their lives so that we could live as we do today.

Sadly, the lessons of war have not been learnt.

During the afternoon of October 7, we visited Mametz Wood and the Welsh memorial.

All the cemeteries and memorials are very moving...well worth a weekend visit!

Lest we forget!

Christopher L Pollard, OBE,
Cowbridge.

Mixed message on dog mess danger

I WRITE to you in response to your article in The GEM on Thursday, October 6, headed *'Council urges owners – Pick up your dog mess!'*

I would like to point out, firstly, that the Mayor herself, has campaigned and had her photograph taken in the very same field where a sign stands at the entrance, requesting owners NOT to exercise animals in that area – because animal faeces can cause serious infection.

Does this not come across as a bizarre contradiction?

I have three young children who all play on the playing field every day, and as a parent, I am fed up with cleaning up dog foul from their shoes!

The idea of councillors handing out dog foul bags to dog owners who are exercising their dogs, in an area where dogs should not be, is the most unbelievable thing I have heard!

Perhaps the Mayor needs to promote the message that animals should not be in the area in the first place!

Hayley Pearce,
Llantwit Major

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL OCTOBER 20)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
13 Thur	04.39	8.5	17.07	9.1
14 Fri	05.31	9.3	17.58	9.8
15 Sat	06.19	9.9	18.42	10.4
16 Sun	07.04	10.5	19.27	10.8
17 Mon	07.47	10.7	20.12	10.9
18 Tues	08.32	10.7	20.54	10.7
19 Wed	09.14	10.5	21.42	10.4
20 Thur	09.59	10.2	22.27	9.9

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Cowbridge U3A walk through history at Llantrisant

THE September outing, on an overcast day, for Cowbridge U3A Long Walks' Group, was a walk around the ancient town of Llantrisant.

It took in the Norman castle, old established parish church; historic Guildhall (soon to undergo restoration); Model House workhouse (where inmates were expected to lead a 'model life'), now transformed into craft workshops; a statue of the multi-faceted Dr William Price; and narrow, cobbled streets.

John, the leader, took the six-strong party on a 6.2 mile circuit, which included exploring the extensive common land that surrounds the town.

The Bili Wynt, an old windmill now partially restored, provided an ideal viewpoint for the group. Refreshments were taken after the walk at the Polkadot Teapot café – well known for its homemade cakes.

There is no truth in the rumour that the party were so dissatisfied with the walk that they put the leader in the pillory (actually stocks, incorrectly used) near the castle as punishment! **SPM**

IN MEMORY OF HELEN

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The weather was good with a number of the riders cooling down in Lake Louise and Lake Minnewanka. The entire group completed the challenge.

The family has raised close to £40,000, and they would like to thank all the people who have donated to such a great cause.

If anybody is interested in donating, please click on ***https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/philipthomas1***

BON VOYAGE LOIC!

Llantwit man's epic cycle ride for Children in Need

by GEM REPORTER

A Frenchman from Llantwit Major left yesterday, Wednesday, October 12, on a marathon 800 mile bike ride to raise funds for Children in Need.

Loic Moinon, aged 35, a father of three has a very special destination in mind.

Loic, who owns Pancake World in Llantwit, told The GEM: "I am undertaking a very personal challenge to cycle from my home in Llantwit to the place where I am originally from, Vannes in Brittany – and then back again. I will be cycling around 800 miles in total."

Loic and his wife Sophie have three young daughters – Leela (7), Anaïs (6) and Clementine, just five months old.

"My wife and I are extremely lucky that our kids are healthy. Everyone loves their children, and I wanted to do something to help other children – those in need.

"That's why I chose to raise funds for Children in Need as my children are the most important thing in my life! I'd be grateful for any donations.

"I want to thank Sophie for allowing me to do the cycle ride. She said: 'I love you. You can go and do your trip!'"

Loic aims to be back for October 29 and plans to do around 60 miles a day. The first few days will take him through south Wales and the west country, and he takes the ferry from Plymouth to Roscoff in France and then heads south for his home town.

The return journey will involve a journey north to the French coast and a crossing to Portsmouth, and back through Reading, Swindon, Bristol and Cardiff.

Loic has a Just Giving page if people would like to donate.

He added: "Once you donate, they'll send your money directly to the charity. So it's the most efficient way to donate - saving time and cutting costs for the charity."

Please go to: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/LoicMoinon.

Wife Sophie and daughters Leela, Anaïs, and Clementine wished Loic 'Bon Voyage' just before he embarked on his epic bike ride which is 800 miles and will take in Wales, England and France.

Making music – Changing Lives

FOLLOWING the highly successful Cowbridge Music Festival, Holy Cross Church is giving its support to the charity 'Making Music – Changing Lives', an innovative Cardiff music project that seeks to improve the lives of children living on the Ely estate.

Funds raised at this year's Church Christmas Tree Festival will support both the work of Holy Cross and the music project in Ely.

The Rev Jan Gould, the founder of the project and a former professional musician, is Vicar of Ely and was inspired by the now world-famous Venezuelan music programme 'El Sistema'.

Brought to the attention of the world by the acclaimed Simon Bolivar Youth Orchestra, the programme has transformed the lives of thousands of children living in poverty in Venezuela through the power of music-making.

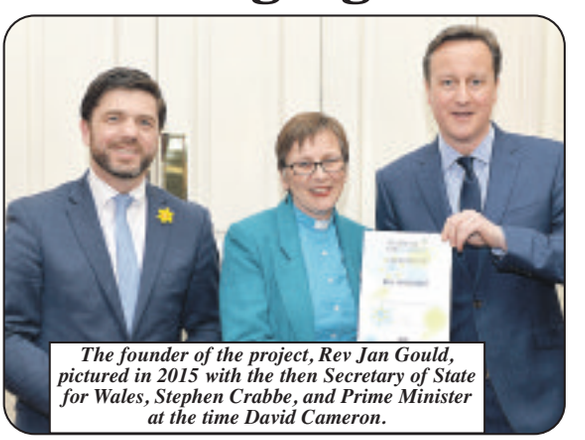
The project in Ely, 'Making Music – Changing Lives', harnesses the talents, not only of Jan herself, but students from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and many dedicated volunteers.

In 2015, in recognition of her work, Jan was presented with a Points of Light award by David Cameron at a Downing Street reception.

The Rev Jan will be coming to Cowbridge on October 28 to give the annual Churches Together lecture.

She will speak about the transformative impact of music on the lives of the young people in Ely and of her own personal journey as a musician and vicar.

The lecture takes place at the United Free Church, Westgate at 7pm for 7.30pm on Friday, October 28 – admission is free and there will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions. **SA**



The founder of the project, Rev Jan Gould, pictured in 2015 with the then Secretary of State for Wales, Stephen Crabbe, and Prime Minister at the time David Cameron.

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Brave Hannah says 'thank you' to the Children's Hospital

by PHILIP IRWIN

A LOCAL family recently took part in a family fun walk in support of the Noah's Ark Children's Hospital appeal – and they had a special reason for being there.

Brave Hannah Coombes, from Llantwit Major, had a banner on her wheelchair which said: *"Thank you for saving my life three times!"*

She completed the 10 km walk around Cardiff Bay this year with three special people – Erika Thomas, Richard Howe, and Simon Type – and Hannah's grateful mother, Cheryl, explained that banner message to The GEM.

"Hannah did the walk last year and displayed the banner on her wheelchair. Unfortunately, she became very poorly back in March/April of this year and was on life support for 12 days.

"Things were very bleak at times, but as Hannah defied all the odds and started to breathe for herself, and day by day she was stronger and stronger, until she was able to come off the ventilator.

"Once again, the Noah's Ark Children's hospital saved Hannah's life.

"When we got Hannah home, we felt that we needed to do the walk again this year, but this time the banner read *'...you saved my life three times, thank you'*".

Courageous Hannah Coombes is pictured with Erika Thomas, Richard Howe, and Simon Type.

Cheryl continued: "Hannah would like to thank everyone who sponsored her, and would like to give a special thank you to her Nanna from Llandow, who walked the village and asked friends and relatives to sponsor her.

"She has raised over £1,300 and money is still coming in. Thank you to everyone!"

Learning all about T-cells at the WI

YSTRADOWEN WI NEWS

THE Ystradowen and District WI's October meeting was well attended, with six new members being welcomed by president Jan Foyle.

The evening also gave us a memorable talk which affected every one of us.

Dr Ann Ager, from the Division of Infection and Immunity, at the School of Medicine of Cardiff University, talked to us on the subject of 'T-cells – A Discovery'.

We heard about these cells, which are part of our immune system and the enormous strides which have been made to make us more able to combat the disabling conditions that affect us all in one way or another.

One of the more telling statements Dr Ager made was her admiration for her young students who "constantly challenged" her, which made research even more productive.

Our members felt that her students were even more fortunate to have her as their tutor! A memorable evening.

After tea and cake, we adopted the previous minutes, were told that we have a very healthy bank balance, and sorted out the food arrangements for the Link meeting in Ystradowen on November 30.

We finished the evening with details of forthcoming events which we might like to attend. These comprised a guided tour of Cirencester, a whist competition, a Scrabble convention and a celebration of the Chinese New Year.

GB

CADS marking 70 years on the town stage

IN the aftermath of World War Two, a group of Cowbridge citizens got together in November 1946 to form the Cowbridge Amateur Dramatic Society.

With little or no money, they held a jumble sale and on the takings CADS was born. CADS continued the happy tradition of using jumble sales to raise money for many years thereafter, including the money raised to help build the theatre, as we know it today.

The first production was sometime early in 1947, *Happy Death Ltd*, directed by Captain F R Whitwell. At some point later, home to the group shifted to a couple of prefabs in the Cattle Market. There all rehearsals took place, with a move into the Town Hall over the weekend before a production.

Sometime during the 1980s, it was realised that the prefabs were past their sell-by date and that CADS needed to refurbish their home. The plan then to rebuild was agreed, CADS was loaned the money by its many patrons and friends to do so.

The whole venture was completed after Jim Grove submitted a request for Lottery funding. His sound business plan achieved its objective, CADS were awarded sufficient funds to finish the work to a standard that enabled CADS to apply for a public performance licence.

Since that day, CADS has both rehearsed and performed every production within its own building.

To celebrate this event, we have chosen to commemorate the centenary of the end of the Battle of the Somme on November 9-12 with our upcoming production *Echoes of the War*, by J M Barry, including a charity night on Friday, November 11 with all proceeds going to the Royal British Legion. This consists of two one act plays: *The Lady Show Her Medals*, a young man comes home on leave to meet the mystery lady who's been writing to him and receives a surprise; and *A Well Remembered Voice*, a good old-fashioned ghost story with a life affirming conclusion.

Tickets are £7 from W Davies in the High Street or at the door.

Jeff Grist
(Chairman CADS)

Barry pupils play their parts in Cowbridge Music Festival

Gladstone Primary school pupils (right) played their parts – and samba instruments! – in the recent Cowbridge Music Festival.

CHILDREN and staff from Gladstone Primary School in Barry took part in the Cowbridge Music Festival Com-munity Outreach Programme for the third year running.

Last Monday, children in years 4 and 5 participated in samba workshops led by Patrick and Mike from 'Children's Musical Adventures', learning different 'samba rhythms' and playing samba instruments.

The whole school then gathered to watch as one of the year-5 classes performed to a captivated and enthusiastic audience.

"We are very privileged to be involved with the Cowbridge Music Festival and are very grateful to every musician that has come into our school over the last three years, bringing the gift of music to our children.

"Patrick and Mike completely inspired the children with their enthusiasm and love of samba – thank you!" said Helen Reilly, deputy headteacher.

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

LLANGAN SCHOOL

NINE other schools from the rural vale joined the Llangan pupils on October 5 for a maths challenge, and Llangan is now looking forward to return visits to other schools over the coming year.

REMINDER

TOMORROW evening (Friday, October 14) a concert will take place at the school starring well-known entertainer Peter Karrie.

Tickets are £10 per head (two per family).

HALL MEETING

THE meeting which took place at Treoes village hall on October 6 was very well attended by the local community.

It was held to discuss the future of the hall and the need to run other events besides the regular weekly events.

There seems to have been issues regarding the noise level following late night celebrations – unfortunately, the hall is in close proximity to houses.

Several minor problems were discussed and, hopefully, these will be ironed out shortly.

My thanks to Mrs Barbara Griggs for this report of the hall meeting. (I had an ear infection).

FAMILY BAPTISM

MEMBERS of a well known local family attended the christening of Sophia, daughter of Kirsty Rosser, which took place at St Canna's Church, Llangan on Sunday, October 9.

Sophia is the fourth generation of her family to be baptised at St Canna's. Amelia Rosser (her great grandmother) was baptised in 1919; John Rosser (grandfather) on December 12, 1943 and David Rosser (father) on June 2, 1979.

This interesting and historic service was conducted by Rev Stephen Adams.

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www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

Alex thanks his 'life savers' and supports 'Restart a Heart Day'

Alex was keen to thank the men who helped to save his life – Terry Bowsher (in the vehicle) and standing from left to right Mike Stevenson, Alex Fisher, Steve Magee and Irene Fisher.

WHAT a Barry man thought was a harmless bout of indigestion turned into a life or death battle in July this year.

Alex Fisher, aged 59, who is originally from Glasgow, had gone to bed after a tiring day and was woken by a pain in his chest.

Thinking little of it, he went for a walk to the back door of the house to get some air and try and ease what he thought was severe indigestion. But it wasn't long before wife Irene went looking for him and found him ashen-coloured in the kitchen.

Alex was finding it difficult to tell Irene what the pain was so she thought it may be a recurrence of a back problem.

In no time at all Alex's condition deteriorated so their grandson helped to carry Alex to the bathroom and minutes later, Irene screamed 'heart attack' and called 999 for an ambulance.

"I just realized that it was far more serious than indigestion and a back problem.

"I was aware that heart attacks can show symptoms via unexpected areas like pains in the arms and jaw, and heaviness in the chest, but I really wasn't sure what was going on with Alex, since he wasn't able to tell me exactly what he felt and where.

"The ambulance call-taker was trying to keep me calm and ask appropriate questions, but ironically, it was Alex himself who was incredibly calm and very quiet."

Clinical team leader and paramedic Steve Magee arrived minutes later.

He explained: "Alex was clearly unwell and uncomfortable, but he was quite a 'trooper' and trying his best to bear the pain. I called for a back-up ambulance and a crew who were on their meal-break at Barry Ambulance Station and they responded immediately.

"Once the crew arrived, I put Alex on a monitor, which made me think at the time that something major might be about to happen, and just as we transported him to the ambulance on a stretcher Alex suffered a cardiac arrest.

"I started CPR immediately and, along with the crew, we got him into the ambulance and shocked him with a defibrillator. Thank goodness Alex came round. We headed straight for University Hospital of Wales (UHW)."

Ambulance crew Terry Bowsher and Mike Stevenson added: "We rushed along on 'blue lights' because we knew Alex was in trouble. We monitored him the whole journey and warned the hospital that we were on our way."

'LIFE SAVING SKILLS'

Alex has recovered well, but remembers very little of the incident itself.

"I can recall the pain I was in at the time, and I can remember Steve the paramedic talking me through everything he was doing and explaining it all, but after the cardiac arrest hit me, I can only remember waking up in hospital and Irene telling me I'd had a massive heart attack.

"Steve, Terry and Mike were great. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't be here today.

"Steve did two minutes of CPR on me before shocking me and that's why I'm so supportive of the *'Restart a Heart Day'* campaign which is running on Tuesday, October 18.

"It's so important that everyone has the basic life-saving skills. It's vital that youngsters learn CPR and are able to begin the cycle of survival as early as possible. It's because of the CPR by Steve, and the shock of the defibrillator, that I'm around to tell my story today.

"The NHS in general tends to get a lot of criticism these days, but my experience from ambulance crew to the staff at UHW has been fantastic and I'll be forever grateful to them."

Restart a Heart Day will take place on Tuesday, October 18, when Welsh Ambulance Service staff and volunteers will be facilitating CPR training at up to 60 secondary schools across Wales throughout the day.

BARRY BARMAN SPENT A YEAR AT LARGE AFTER THE THEFT OF OVER £5,000

A BARRY barman fled south Wales, after stealing £5,581 from his employer, Cardiff Crown Court has heard, ***writes AJ SICLUNA.***

Marcus Phillips (30) ended up working in a bar in Bodmin and was at large for some time, said prosecutor Ieuan Bennett.

Phillips, formerly of Broad Street, Barry, was jailed for 15 months after admitting charges of theft and failure to surrender to his bail.

Passing sentence, Recorder Jeremy Jenkins pointed out that Phillips had been involved in the breach of a high degree of trust and there had also been planning.

Mr Bennett said that the defendant had been employed as a barman at the Waterguard in Harbour Drive, Cardiff Bay, which was run by Samuel Smith Brewery.

He had a good relationship with the managers, David Pritchard and Carrie Weaver and received temporary promotion when they went on annual leave in August 2014. He was given the key to the safe and was responsible for paying in takings to the bank.

When the pair returned in September, Phillips was nowhere to be seen, there was a mess in the office and the police were called.

Altogether, said Mr Bennett, he had taken £5,581.

He was found in a local pub in Barry and was arrested.

He claimed, untruthfully, that the managers must have stolen the money.

He said he had recently spent money on furniture, on a television and on an expensive holiday.

Phillips failed to turn up for trial in August 2015 and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

He was arrested on August 4 this year and initially he denied the charges and finally changed his plea.

The court heard that he had no previous convictions.

His defence counsel, Alec Small, said Phillips had "stuck his head in the sand". He said he regretted his behaviour and was ashamed.

Getting ready for Christmas...

AT the October meeting of Colwinston and Llysworney WI, president Liz Stone gave out details of the Christmas dinner to be held in the Sycamore Tree Inn and went through programme ideas for the coming year, to include various speakers, craft evenings, dance, indoor curling and theatre trips.

After other suggestions from the members, Liz showed how to make Christmas trees out of cupcake cases. All the members then made several of these for the Christmas Tree Festival in Holy Cross Church, where our tree will be on display with many others from Cowbridge and surrounding areas.

• ***The photo, above, shows members with the tree decorations.*** **KJ**

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RESIDENT ASTONISHED AT HOW HER POSSESSIONS VANISHED!

The house, the key, the garage... and disappearing car!

by GEM REPORTER

A Barry woman is in dispute with the Vale Council following a bizarre set of events involving a house, a key, a garage and a disappearing car.

On August 21 last year mum of two Stacey Edros took possession of a house in Woodstock Close.

She was thrilled to have a home of her own.

"The housing officer showed me round the house and it was amazing.

"He gave me the key to the front door, the back door and the bin shed.

"He handed me another key and said 'You'll have to go round and find out what this one's for'."

About 20 yards from Stacey's house, situated at the entrance to the close are a set of garages.

"I went over there and the key opened the first garage. Having a garage with the house was a nice bonus.

The garage at the end of Woodstock Close which Stacey stored her possessions and the car in.

"I was able to store the children's bikes, a bed frame, a TV, some pieces of furniture and a suitcase containing paintings by my children and my sister's children."

In July this year her brother Peter asked if he could put his Citroen in the garage until he could afford to get it back on the road.

So far, so good.

But last Friday, there was a mysterious turn of events.

"My nephew came into the house after school and said: 'Where's the stuff from your garage gone?'"

Her nephew said there was a man with a car outside her garage, and tyres in it, but no sign of her possessions or the car.

"It sounded unbelievable. I went outside and spoke to the man by my garage and said: 'Excuse me, where's my stuff gone?' He said: 'I picked up the keys for the garage this morning, I'm renting it for £7.50 a week'."

Stacey was baffled. She endured a troubling weekend having to tell her brother his car had vanished and had to wait for the council offices to open on Monday morning to get some sort of an explanation.

"On Monday morning I spoke to a woman at the council who told me the garage wasn't in my tenancy agreement.

"She said my possessions had been disposed of and the car had been taken to a salvage company."

Visions of the car being crushed or taken apart entered her mind.

But when she got in touch with the salvage company she discovered – to her relief – that it was intact, but she would have to pay a £120 retrieval fee.

Stacey was amazed that no one had contacted her brother, but was told by the official that because there was no MoT or tax on the vehicle the council had decided it had been abandoned. In fact, those were the very reasons her brother had taken it off the road.

Stacey points out that the housing officer gave her the key and told her to find out what it was for – and, acting in good faith, she did.

To her knowledge, no one from the council knocked on her door or the doors of her neighbours to check whether anyone knew who was using the garage.

She thinks the council should return the car without a charge and compensate her for the possessions which were taken, including the children's paintings which are of sentimental value.

Mike Ingram, operational manager for public housing, told The GEM it was "an unfortunate situation", but insisted the keys had not been provided by the housing team.

"The garages on Claude Road are not adjacent to the properties on Woodstock Close and are not connected in any way.

"According to the council's records this particular garage had been empty for a considerable amount of time.

"The garage had not been rented to the previous tenant of Ms Edros' current home, our housing team did not provide the keys to the garage, and nor did they tell the tenant that a garage was included in her tenancy.

"Ahead of the garage being rented to another of our tenants in September the locks were changed. When this work was undertaken the car and other belongings were discovered.

"The car inside was removed and placed into storage for 28 days and last week, having received no contact from anyone in the three weeks since the locks had been changed, the council's waste management team cleared the other items."

He added: "This is an unfortunate situation but as Ms Edros was not provided with any keys by the Vale of Glamorgan Council and was not paying any rent for the garage we are confident that our housing team have acted correctly."

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Hundreds pay their respects
Barry's farewell to Tom – the soldier with a heart of gold

ON a sunlit Barry morning huge numbers of people attended the funeral of Tom Sloman (27), described by his family as a person "with a heart of gold", who loved rugby and football, and served his country in Afghanistan.

Tom, who died in July, had been a member of the Welsh Guards (Prince of Wales Company) and had recently left the Army.

Tom's grandfather Nick told The GEM: "There was an incredible turnout. It was one of the biggest funerals I have ever seen in Barry.

"Tom had achieved his dream of serving his country as a member of the Welsh Guards. He was so determined – three times he ran with a rucksack full of stones so he could make the required weight.

"He loved sport, and it was wonderful that his friends, the Stratford Green lads, who he had played football and rugby with, lined Coldbrook Road for the funeral procession and then dashed up to the church for the service."

It was estimated that between 600 and 700 people attended the funeral which took place at All Saints' Church.

One of the tributes from The Prince of Wales's Company read: *'Once a Jamboy always a Jamboy. Guardsman Tom Sloman Rest In Peace. With love from all ranks.'*

His coffin, borne by his brother Daniel and five Guardsman, was accompanied by a lone piper

Flags were lowered as a final tribute to Tom when he was laid to rest at Barry Cemetery.

IMAGES by JOHN O'BEIRNE

LEFT: *Tom's coffin was borne by his brother Daniel and by members of the Welsh Guards.*

U3A tours the Mint

THIRTY members of Sully U3A visited the Royal Mint Experience at Llantrisant, where they were given a guided tour to watch the process of minting coins and were given the opportunity to strike their own pound coins.

The Royal Mint was originally located in the Tower of London from the 13th century before moving to a new purpose built complex at Tower Hill in the early 19th century.

In 1968, it was relocated to Llantrisant where today it produces five billion coins a year.

LLANCARFAN PUPILS HAVE A HARVEST DAY CELEBRATION!

LAST week was another busy and exciting week in Llancarfan Primary School, culminating on Friday with a special Harvest Festival celebration.

The day started brilliantly, with children and adults alike carrying the very generously donated bundles of tins, packets, jars and boxes of food into school.

We then held a celebration assembly where children sang songs and recited poetry about the harvest and the fruit and vegetables farmers grow.

We would like to thank all of our wonderful parents who donated so generously and our children who all participated in and performed so well in a fabulous Harvest Festival celebration.

The donations made an impressive display and all of the items have been collected by the Vale Foodbank at Coastlands Family Church in Barry, who asked us to pass on their thanks to everyone for their continued support. **CH**

Cardiff Archbishop at Atlantic College

ABOVE: Fr Mark and students at UWC Atlantic College are pictured with Archbishop Stack.

THE Archbishop of Cardiff, George Stack, paid UWC Atlantic College a visit on September 14.

The visit was instigated by Father Mark, a local Catholic parish priest, who wanted to encourage the students to go to church on Sundays.

Fr Mark offered to start celebrating Mass at the college weekly, as well as contributing to Christian discussion groups with the students. Fr Mark suggested that Archbishop Stack might like to visit the college and get to know them too, as he was very involved in education in his last position in the diocese of Southwark.

The Archbishop visited and was given a tour of the castle by former head of biology, Alan Hall, followed by tea and a stroll through the gardens with some of the Catholic students.

Mariasofia, one of the students involved, commented: "The Archbishop showed a lot of interest in where we were from, the worship sites, history and the events related to Catholicism in our home countries.

"I appreciated his interest in our college and his willingness to meet young people to hear about our international experience."

Sunrise over Barry Bay

Is this sunrise over the Aegean Sea? The Bay of Naples perhaps? No, in fact it is 'The Bay of Barry' captured by local photographer Angela Magee.
Angela told The GEM: "I took the photograph on the morning of October 3. At the centre, is Barry Docks Office, with the backdrop of Flat Holm and Steep Holm. I managed to catch the image standing to the side of Tynewydd Road. The townscape and seascape looked more like Italy than Barry!"

Squadron Leader's rise to a life in the air...

THE speaker at the October meeting of the Cowbridge Pontfaen Probus Club was Squadron Leader Ron Powell, who gave a vivid and memorable account of part of his long and varied career in the Royal Air Force.

He was brought up in humble circumstances in Shropshire, but from an early age was determined to become a pilot.

Although at first he was told to accept other training in the service, by perseverance he was successful in his ambition.

He was lucky enough to have experience in flying many different types of aircraft. His favourite was the small manoeuvrable Bulldog, rather than larger planes.

He later became a specialist instructor in air training, and, in fact, trained other pilots to becomer instructors themselves.

While based at St Athan, he was involved in training university students and he described more than one hair-raising moment experienced while teaching his pupils how to cope with emergency situations – when split second decisions have to be made to avoid tragedy.

His expertise was particulalry valuable during the Falklands campaign, when victory depended on the ability of the RAF to support our troops at such a great distance from the UK that 'in flight' refuelling was essential.

Although not a Red Arrow pilot himself, he had flown in a Red Arrow aircraft and late in his career had the privilage of organising a Royal Red Arrow fly-past event in London, where once again, split second timing was needed to ensure that events on the ground coincided with those in the air.

Squadron Leader Powell has published several books about his life in flying, a life which has taken him all over the world and given him the rewards of achieving very high practical skills and of teaching those skills to others. This was a most interesting and stimulating talk.

The club holds meeting swith an interesting speaker every month in the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, and welcomes new members.

If you are interested, please contact our secretary Chris Pinchbeck on 01446 773527. **DP**

Funeral Directors make Help the Heroes festive stocking appeal

PENARTH Funeral Directors are supporting the Help for Heroes' Christmas Stocking Appeal.

A spokesman for the company explained: "Every year the national Help for Heroes charity runs its Christmas Stocking Appeal, 'Operation Christmas Cheer' with the aim of providing sockings, brimming with goodies to wounded, injured and sick Servicemen, Servicewomen, and veterans over the Christmas period who are in hospital, Headley Court and their Recovery Centres.

"Penarth Funeral Directors have been appointed a designated drop-off point for the public to donate items to this very worthy cause.

"There are five set items that the charity is asking to be donated for both male and female stockings. Corporate organisations complete the stockings by donating stocks of items such as DVDs, CDs, clothing and stocking fillers.

"To ensure that everyone receives the same gifts, they can only include the items that are listed below. Ninety per cent of the wounded service personnel are male so the charity kindly requests that more items for men are donated.

"For the men, the appeal requests £10 Amazon gift vouchers, 160g bag of Haribo sweet, bag of chocolate coins, shaving gel or face cream.

"For the women, it suggests £10 Amazon gift voucher, 160g bag of Haribo sweets, bag of chocolate coins, glittery nail varnish or hand cream.

"You can drop your (unwrapped) donations, of any or all of the above items specified, to Penarth Funeral Directors at 30 Hickman Road, Penarth, CF62 2AL before Friday, October 28.

"Following this date, the collection will be delivered to Help for Heroes for their Christmas elves to make up the individual stockings before being dispersed all over the country to the recovering service personnel.

If you would like to arrange an out of hours donation, please don't hesitate to contact Penarth Funeral Directors of 02920 703581 or by email enquiries@penarthfuneraldirectors.com."

More information about the Stockings for Heroes campaign can be found at www.helpforheroes.org.uk/get involved.

Music and Monologues raise £2,000

ON Thursday, October 6, before a packed audience, the Gill Davies Players put on an entertaining evening of Music and Monologues III – in aid of the All Saints Church, roof restoration appeal.

Led by Gill Davies (Barry Arts Centre, Orbit and Sherman Theatres) with two superb monologues, the varied programme included operatic and cabaret pieces along with musical soloists. Violinist Simon Carter commenced the evening by performing *Romance*, followed by Andrew Matthews (baritone), Louise Metcalf (mezzo-soprano) Linda Coombes (Orbit Theatre), David Hughes (Orbit Theatre), Lucy Llewellyn and Mark Thompson (Forte cabaret group), all accompanied by James Bull.

The event was a resounding success and raised £2,000 for the appeal. ***ANN ELLIOTT***

Police appeal after injured in road crash

THE South Wales Police are appealing for witnesses following a serious collision at approximately 4pm on Friday, October 7 on the A4106 Tythegston road, just before the A48 roundabout, Bridgend.

A spokesman stated: "A blue Dacia Sandero vehicle had travelled from the general direction of Porthcawl towards the A48, had mounted the offside kerb and collided with two 19-year-old male pedestrians who lived locally.

"As a result, both suffered injuries. One male pedestrian was flown by air ambulance to the University Hospital of Wales, where his condition is described as critical, and the second male is receiving treatment for less serious injuries at the Princess of Wales hospital, Bridgend.

"The 49-year-old driver of the Dacia is currently assisting police with their inquiries.

"South Wales Police would like to thank the people affected by the closure for their patience and understanding."

They appealing to anyone with information to contact the serious collision investigation unit on 101, or Crimestoppers free and anonymously on 0800 555 111 ref 1600387042.

Dunraven Bay in a mission to entertain

THE Vale of Glamorgan's Dunraven Bay, Southerndown, has played host to a range of pop-up events recently, including a mix of hands-on craft activities and an open-air cinema weekend.

The Crafts on the Coast Festival took place on September 4, and saw an estimated 600 visitors arrive throughout the day, enjoying plenty of rural craft displays, mini workshops, and the opportunity to buy crafts made locally – including Willow products, stained glass and up-cycled textiles.

With promises of 'fan birds' made from only one piece of wood, the creative and inquisitive visitor was not disappointed.

Visitors were then able to get stuck-in as three workshops per day were run from September 6-9, and focused on willow-weaving, stained-glass, creative writing, textiles and driftwood art.

Friday, September 16 then saw the atmospheric walk through Dunraven Gardens lead to a large cinema screen, as the open-air cinema weekend commenced with a screening of cult-classic, *The Lost Boys*.

The coast's setting sun leant itself well to the vampiric flick as viewers visited the bar, and surrounding stalls, to get themselves a cocktail and some tacos before the film started.

The heritage coast has historic links to pirates, and Saturday evening brought a treasure-filled treat of a film in *The Goonies*. As the crowd waited for the young adventurers to take them to the treasure cove, visitors were able to play pop-up crazy golf.

These pop-up events are part of a launched pilot scheme by the Vale of Glamorgan Council's Creative Rural Communities team.

A council spokesman said: "Next up, October awaits the arrival of the Slow Food Fest and the Autumn Garden Festival of Food and Drink, both of which should appeal to all foodies.

"On October 8, people can go to taste, learn, watch, smell, share, listen, drink and explore at the Slow Food Fest. With artisan food and drink producers present to give food talks and cooking demos, anyone with a love of food should go along. The event is open between 10am–4pm, and brings good food and people together.

"The Autumn Garden Festival of Food and Drink then arrives on October 15, and showcases local, small-scale independent producers of food and drink to a backdrop of music and art from local musicians/artists. This is open between 12pm–9pm at Dunraven Bay.

For more information, visit www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/CoastalCommunities.

Surprise 'in store' for ValePlus

Members of ValePlus, with director Steve Thomas, receiving the cheque from Lynette Griffin.

MEMBERS of ValePlus in Barry recently visited the local ASDA store – to receive a cheque for £200 from Mrs Lynette Griffin, towards its minibus appeal.

A spokesperson explained. "The money was raised as a result of a token collect scheme and ValePlus is very grateful to the store and its customers for supporting its appeal."

ValePlus provides lifelong learning and leisure opportunities for people with a learning disability and is based in Barry and Llantwit.

Further details can be found on the website: www.valeplus.org.uk

LAST CHANCE FOR YOUR SAY ON SCHOOL CONSULTATION

TWO weeks remain before the end of the Vale Council's public consultation on a proposal that could see £44m invested into two new mixed-sex secondary schools for Barry.

The consultation will decide the future of Barry Comprehensive School and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School, and began in early September. It will close on October 17.

A total of £11.5m has been earmarked for new facilities and investment into the buildings on the current Bryn Hafren School site and £32.5m for a new school building and a centre of behavioural excellence on the Barry Comprehensive School site.

Coun Lis Burnett, cabinet member for regeneration and education, said: "We know that both parents and pupils are passionate about the future of English-medium schooling in Barry and so are urging everyone who has not already done so to have their say before the consultation closes next month."

If there is support from parents and pupils then the new schools, which will replace the existing single sex Barry Comprehensive and Bryn Hafren Comprehensive schools, would open in September 2018.

The consultation is open to all interested parties, with a focus on parents, pupils, and staff.

Responses can be submitted online at www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/barryschools, in writing, or by calling the council's C1V contact centre.

Barry Comprehensive School and (below) Bryn Hafren Comprehensive School.

Ysgol Stanwell School

Open Day, 18th October 2016
3pm - 6pm

We invite all prospective parents of Year 7 and Sixth Form students to visit our Open Day on Tuesday 18th October to meet staff and pupils and take part in activities.

Stanwell School is consistently placed among the top schools in Wales. In the most recent Estyn Inspection, Stanwell was awarded the highest rating of Excellent in in all key questions. Inspectors praised the School's outstanding teaching and learning ethos; please visit our website www.stanwell.org to view the full report and also news of school events and achievements.

We provide extensive extra-curricular activities, with music, drama and sport all flourishing. A range of after-school clubs is available to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

Excellent examination results are achieved by Stanwell pupils. In 2016, 82% of pupils achieved 5 GCSE grades A* - C, including English and Maths. 87% achieved a grade C or above in English GCSE, 89% in maths and 99% in Science. Results in the Sixth Form are equally impressive with A* - B grades achieved in 63% of all entries.

We look forward to meeting you at Open Day. Alternatively, please contact the school at any other time of year to arrange for a tour during the school day.

Stanwell School, Archer Road, Penarth, Vale of Glamorgan, CF64 2XL | 02920 707633 | stanwell.org

Baa-ry library to receive some unusual visitors!

LIBRARIES in Barry, Cowbridge and Llantwit Major will be celebrating British Wool Week by holding events that demonstrate the wonders of wool and the sheep that produce it.

On Tuesday, October 11, Barry Library will play host to wool producers. Sheep from the Kennixton Flock will be coming along to an event at the library that will bring to life the production of wool, and highlight the different ways in which wool is used – from the sheep to the garment.

There will be spinning demonstrations, with the opportunity to try your hand at this traditional Welsh heritage craft.

Jane Bissett, shepherd, said: "I am delighted that I am going to be able to bring some sheep into an urban environment to meet people at the library.

In Wales, there are about three sheep to every one person, and sheep are vital to the agricultural industry in Wales - they are very much worth celebrating. This is the seventh year for the Campaign for Wool, and appreciation for wool is growing."

Senior librarian, Melanie Weeks, added: "Some of the local schools will be bringing classes to join us throughout the day, but everyone is very welcome to come along. The library is about community and learning, and I am sure this event will not only bring the countryside to town but also help our understanding of the role of sheep in the past and the future of Wales."

Barry Library is also the meeting venue for the Tuesday Knit and Natter group who will also be taking part. They will showcase some of the ways wool can be used in knitting and crochet, as well as being on hand for a chat about wool and their current projects.

On Wednesday, October 12, the exhibition moves on to Cowbridge Library in the

ABOVE:
Elise Bennett, Jacob Bissett and Faith Bissett. Their friend is an 18-month-old PollDorset Ram called Jack.

REMEMBERING THE ABERFAN DISASTER FIFTY YEARS ON

Welsh Secretary
ALUN CAIRNS
reports to GEM readers

NEXT week, Wales will remember the anniversary of one of the most horrific tragedies ever to befall any community in the UK.

Many readers will remember the events of October 21, 1966 as some of the most harrowing ever reported in their lifetime.

Others, born later, may be only dimly aware of the grim significance of the phrase 'Aberfan Disaster'.

This week, I visited the valley community of Aberfan, only 13 miles from the Vale, to speak to those who remember the catastrophe first hand.

You might be able to imagine a wall of wet rock and shale cascading down the side of a valley, an industrial avalanche engulfing the school and houses below...

Those I spoke to, do not have to imagine. Neither do they have to imagine the aftermath, of finding that 144 people had died, 116 of them children.

The cruelty of fate, reflected in the timing of the collapse of the 50-year-old heap, has not been forgotten. Had the slurry slid only minutes earlier, the school day would not have yet begun, and had it started only a few hours later the school would have been closed for half term.

We can scarcely appreciate the despair that was, and is, still felt in a community that lost an entire generation in one fell swoop.

The ITV Wales documentary *The Aberfan Young Wives' Club* revealed in powerful personal accounts, how the families of victims had formed a self-help group of their own; the tight community of the valleys sustained them through the immediate aftermath and the longer haul to come.

Another recent news report revealed how one of the first police officers at the scene has only felt able to seek treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder in the last five years.

For relatives of those who died, the pain of the disaster goes on. The survivors and trustees of the Aberfan charity told me of how the feelings of loss and emptiness never really depart.

Everyone in Wales should take time to recognise that pain, to remember the horror and to give thanks that no similar tragedy has occurred since. I am very glad that the Welsh national football team has already visited, to bring Aberfan once more to public attention.

Importantly, we should honour the community spirit that exists in Aberfan and across Wales. The black and white 1966 news footage can still be watched on the internet, it shows the whole community racing to unearth victims.

There is no doubt that the same spirit has helped, and is helping to mend the deeper psychological scars.

Do remember Aberfan in your thoughts and prayers next week.

Round Table seeks young men to become life-savers

BARRY Round Table is urging young men aged 16-30 to join the Anthony Nolan stem cell donor register.

Anthony Nolan matches incredible individuals willing to donate their blood stem cells or bone marrow to people with blood cancer and blood disorders who desperately need lifesaving transplants.

In 1986, Round Table clubs across the UK and Ireland were instrumental in adding 100,000 new names to the Anthony Nolan register, and 30 years on, Round Table clubs are teaming up with the Anthony Nolan charity again, this time targeting young men.

Mark House, national president of Round Table, is urging young guys to get involved: "Men aged 16-30 are the most in demand as stem cell donors but they make up just 15 per cent of the Anthony Nolan register.

"Round Table clubs were instrumental in getting Anthony Nolan to where it is today and as a young man's organisation I hope we can encourage more young men to join the donor register".

Ann O'Leary, head of register development at Anthony Nolan, said: "We're delighted to restart our lifesaving partnership with the Round Table. We urgently need more people, especially young men, to join the register.

"Most people have a one in 900 chance of being chosen to donate. But young men have a one in 200 chance. What many people don't realise is how simple it is to join the stem cell register – it involves filling in a form and providing a saliva sample. For those who go on to donate, about 90 per cent will donate through PBSC (peripheral blood stem cell collection).

"Our original collaboration with Round Table added a huge number of potential donors to the register. This time around we want to reach young men in particular and we look forward to seeing how the campaign takes off in the Barry area."

For those interested in finding out more about Anthony Nolan and Round Table, please go to anthonyNolan.roundtable.co.uk.

VALE MAYOR INVITES BRENDA TO TEA...

The Mayor, Coun Stuart Egan, the Mayor's consort, Mr Nigel Gibbs, Mrs Brenda Rees, and Mr Phillip Evans.

MAYOR of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Stuart Egan, recently invited a special visitor to the Mayor's parlour for afternoon tea.

One of the Vale's longest-serving foster carers, Brenda Rees, retired this year after 43 years' service and retains fond memories of children in her care – many of whom are still in contact with her today.

The Mayor, friends, and colleagues, joined Brenda to thank her for her unstinting care, support and friendship, and to wish her a very happy and well-deserved retirement.

Penarth news in brief

ON Thursday, October 13 at 7.30pm, Mark Davies will give a talk on James Sadler, an Oxford cook who became the first man to build and fly a hot air balloon in Oxford in 1784.

The talk will be held in All Saints Lesser Hall Penarth. All welcome, £2 entrance.

Music at lunchtime

ON Monday, October 17, Alison Dite (piano) and Phillip Heyman (viola) will be at All Saints Church, Penarth, at 1pm. Entrance is free, although a donation towards the organ restoration fund will be gratefully received. Bring your own lunch; tea and coffee provided.

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Rescue helicopters celebrate first anniversary in the Vale

LEFT: St Athan crews winch training with the RNLI.

BRISTOW Helicopters Ltd is marking its first anniversary of handling search and rescue (SAR) operations on behalf of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency from its base in the Vale of Glamorgan.

HM Coastguard service became operational at St Athan on October 4, 2015 and statistics for the base's first year show the crew responded to around 200 taskings from the Aeronautical Rescue Coordination Centre (ARCC).

Chief Pilot Captain Olly Padbury, said: "I'd like to extend our thanks to the local communities for making us feel so welcome over the past 12 months. It's a great privilege to serve this area and we are very much looking forward to the future as part of HM Coastguard's lifesaving service.

"I am particularly pleased that we have been able to establish such positive relationships with emergency service teams north and south of the Bristol Channel. The year has brought an enormous variety of missions, from feeling our way through low cloud in the Black Mountains, to the beaches of north Devon, ferries, fishermen and Lundy Island. I am so proud of the team here at St Athan and of the service we provide."

The Bristow crews are operating with state-of-the-art helicopters, equipped with the latest search and rescue technology including night vision, mission management and increased onboard medical capabilities.

Russell Torbet, director of UK SAR, said: "It's a proud day for the SAR team at Bristow. Many years of hard work went into the preparations for taking over the service from the military, so 12 months of successful operations at St Athan is indeed a great milestone."

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BUILDING CHIEF'S 1,200KM ROCKIES' CHARITY RIDE...

GETTING on his bike for charity is a regular occurrence for Bridgend construction boss Marc Jehu, but he admits that his latest charity ride, cycling 1,200km from Barcelona to Monaco for Prostate Cymru, is the biggest challenge to date.

He joined up with the team of charity cyclists in Barcelona from where they started their cycle ride, heading across the Spanish border into the south of France and eventually completing the journey in Monaco.

Many of the cyclists involved have links with Prostate Cymru, and Jehu Project Services has been delighted to continue with an ongoing partnership with the charity to deliver awareness-raising Toolbox talks to staff as part of health awareness.

Marc said: "We hope that the charity cycle ride, and the Tool box talks, will help get the message across to men of all ages working with us about the challenges of this disease and we are pleased to be supporting such a worthwhile charity. The support received has been amazing and I have raised £1,915 so far."

Anyone wishing to support Marc Jehu's charity cycle challenge, can visit the charity donation page at https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/MarcJehu-Barc2Monaco

Marc Jehu.

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VALE LINES UP BUILDING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

BACK in April, LABC Cymru held the 21st South Wales Building Excellence Awards event at the Vale Resort.

Vale Council winners then went on to compete against finalists from north Wales, at the All Wales Building Excellence Awards, held at the Wales Millennium Centre.

Taylor Wimpey were Best New Large Developers and Best Conversion, for their development at Channel Heights, Rhoose

Properties for the conversion of the Pump House, Waterfront, Barry (Simon Baston from D S Properties) won the Best Conversion category.

Francois Samuel, Welsh Government, Head of Building Regulations at the Planning Directorate, and Paul Everall, LABC Chief Executive, gave out the awards.

The Vale Council's Victoria Robinson said: "*We are extremely proud to have these examples of excellence in construction here in the Vale of Glamorgan.*

"Our Building Control team have forged and maintained strong working relationships with the industry, to deliver and promote these examples of Best Practice.

"These awards recognise the hard work and commitment of all involved in the process."

"We would like to thank our local sponsors for continuing to support the awards at a local level. Nina Estate Agents, ACD Skip and Recycling, The Vale Resort, The Glamorgan GEM and Jewson of Barry."

The two winners will now be competing as finalists at the National Building Excellence Awards in November at Westminster Park Plaza, London.

Barry park will turn into the town's first ice rink!

CENTRAL PARK in Barry is to host the town's first-ever ice rink this winter, and will be home to a series of attractions as part of its transformation into Ice Central.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council will install an undercover rink to be situated in the park adjacent to Barry Town Hall, which will open after the big 'switch-on' of Barry's Christmas lights on November 26 at 5pm.

Ice Central will offer seasonal food, drinks and live music as well as a family friendly festive skating experience. The rink will be open for eight days and is the centrepiece of the Vale Council's winter events programme for 2016.

Coun Lis Burnett, cabinet member for regeneration and education, said: "For the past two years, we have held the hugely-popular Christmas projections in King Square.

"These two evenings have proved that the right events can attract huge numbers of people to Barry's town centre.

"What we are now doing, is building on that success with an event that lasts for a week, rather than an evening and so can be enjoyed by even more people.

"As well as providing festive fun for families from Vale and beyond we hope the event, the first of its kind in the town, will provide a boost to local traders at what we know is a very important time of year.

"The programme of events during the week, and elsewhere across the Vale during the Christmas period, is still being finalised and this is the first of many announcements. So watch this space!" she added.

Ice Central is being delivered in partnership with Mack Events, the team behind the successful GlastonBarry festival.

The Ice Central rink will open at 5.30pm on Saturday, November 26 and every day from Sunday, November 27 to Sunday, December 4.

There will be late night events on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Prices start from £3; family ticket £10.

For more details, see www.visitthevale.com.

DROP-IN ADVICE

COUNCILLORS Richard and Robert Bertin and Andy Griffiths (Election 17 andidate) will be holding one of their regular drop-in advice sessions on Saturday, October 15 at the Community Room in Barry Library between 2pm–3pm.

All residents are welcome to attend and no appointment is necessary.

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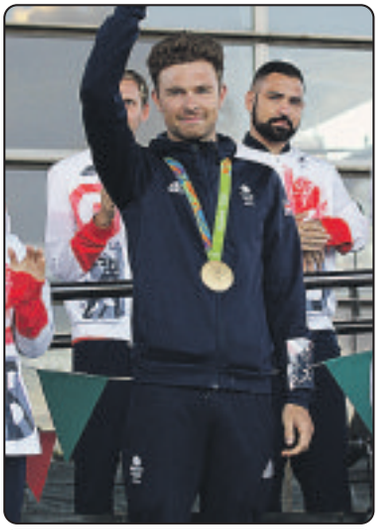
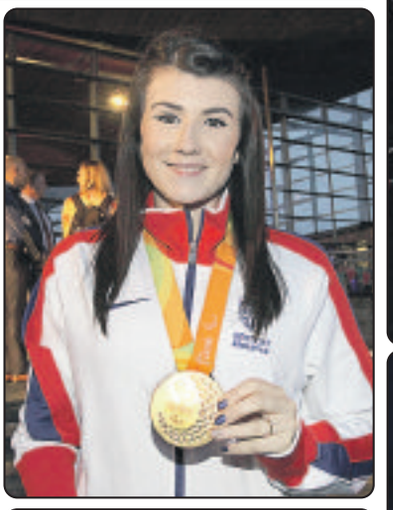
THEY came from near, and went far – all the way to Brazil and the Rio 2016 Olympics and Paralympics – representing Team GB.

Each of them embodied the Olympic motto of *Citius, Altius, Fortius*, (Faster, Higher, Stronger) and personified tenacity, grit and the bulldog spirit.

The GEM salutes Wales' winners!





Local family remember a 'wonderful mother, daughter, sister, and wife'

THE Pontyclun woman who died following a collision which occurred at approximately 7am on Tuesday, October 4 on the A4232 between Junction 33 and Culverhouse Cross has been named as Debra-Claire Lewis-Jones.

Her family have issued the following statement:

"It is with a heavy heart and a pain that can't be put into words that the family of Debra-Claire Lewis-Jones announce her sudden passing.

"A wonderful mother, daughter, sister, and wife; she was our rock. She knew the answers to everything, and she knew it. Her favourite phrase was "I'm always right" and I can't recall a time when she wasn't.

"She let few people into her heart, but those she did she held dear and she held close, her family most of all. The loss of Debra-Claire will be felt further and deeper than can be explained.

"She was one of the happiest people, she laughed easily and frequently, and as her family can attest; she laughed with her whole body and soul. We will miss her.

"We would like to thank the witnesses and bystanders that called in for help as soon as the unfortunate incident happened; as well as the emergency services for their quick response, but in particular, South Wales Police for their assistance to our family.

"We'd also like to thank all the staff who have looked after and cared for Debra-Claire at University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff. Finally, we would like to express our condolences to everyone whose lives she touched and would appreciate if we could be left alone during our period of grieving, while we come to terms with such a huge loss in our lives."

• *South Wales Police are appealing for any witnesses to contact them. Officers would like to speak to anybody who witnessed the collision or who stopped to provide assistance, or to anyone who may have seen the a Seat Ibiza vehicle being driven prior to the collision.*

Contact the serious collision investigation unit on 101, or Crimestoppers (anonymously) on 0800 555 111; reference 1600382012.

COFFEE, CAKE – AND A FLU JAB FOR THE MAYOR!

***RIGHT**: Flu Champion Co-Ordinator Nurse Neil Pugh, Vale of Glamorgan Cabinet Officer Mark Petherick and the Vale Mayor.*

THE Mayor of the Vale of Glamorgan, Coun Stuart Egan, recently held a "very successful " coffee morning at Llandough Hospital – to raise funds for his two chosen charities, the Llandough Hospital Orchard Project and the Penarth and District Lesotho Trust.

The Mayor contributed with his own award-winning Welsh cakes, and would like to thank the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, British Gas volunteers, CostCo and all who helped raise £168.

The next coffee morning will be held at Llandough Hospital Plaza on Wednesday, November 2 from 10.30am to 12 noon.

The Mayor also received his flu vaccination, courtesy of Flu Champion Co-ordinator Nurse, Neil Pugh and commented: "Free flu jabs are available from your GP, or participating local pharmacy for those who are at risk, to protect against catching flu and developing serious complications.

"Although flu can be a relatively mild illness, which gets better by itself, it can be much more serious in some people. Each year in the UK, there are deaths caused by seasonal flu."

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CONFERENCE ON 'DARK SIDE OF THE SOUL'

THE need to 'flee from oneself' is the theme of a conference organised by Cynnal, the churches' counselling service.

The Archbishop of Wales, Dr Barry Morgan, is endorsing the event which takes place at Carmarthen on October 26, and said: "Christ warned that we live in poverty if we do not know ourselves. This conference is a chance to highlight such spiritual impoverishment and challenge each other to dwell with ourselves."

Anyone wishing to attend should contact the Living Room Cardiff on 029 2049 3895 to register or send an e-mail to carol.hardy@cais.org.uk.

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Could you foster a rescue greyhound?

ABOVE and BELOW: Just two of the dogs currently in the care of Greyhound Rescue Wales.

A LOCAL greyhound rescue group is looking to recruit more volunteers to care for the dogs in their care.

Greyhound Rescue Wales rehomes ex-racing greyhounds, and volunteer Beverley Page from Llantwit major told The GEM: "We always have a need for homes most of all, but we are also starting up a foster scheme to help rehabilitate some of our long stay dogs.

"We are looking for super canine fosterers who will receive full support from our organisation's team of experts. This helps our dogs learn about life in a home."

A number of local residents are already fostering, and they are enjoying the experience.

Gill Jones of Pencoed said: "Being a fosterer to our first greyhound has proved to quite a privilege!

"There has been lots of support around me if needed. It has proved great for my health as I am now walking more regularly and with purpose.

"There are also groups which offer a social network with organised walks, but,the most important part for me is giving this noble breed a second chance and to be able to keep them safe".

Brenda Grove lives in Cowbridge and she had this to say: "Some people in Cowbridge will have seen my whippet, Jasper and me walking with our new friend, Carl the greyhound, whom we are fostering.

"After a bad start in life, this ex-racer was going to be shot because of a broken toe. Carl was taken in by Greyhound Rescue Wales and they found him a foster home with us.

"He arrived very nervous of everything, people, traffic, loud and unexpected noises but he is slowly adapting to a life in a home with regular walks, a comfortable bed (preferably your sofa) and plenty of TLC.

"It is very rewarding to see the difference that you can make to the well-being of an abused dog. Carl and Jasper get on well together and Carl, although large, is quite and gentle in the house.

"He is slowly learning that most people are kind and friendly and that life can be fun.

"Greyhound Rescue Wales is looking for more foster homes for dogs like Carl and I would recommend it.

"One other benefit is the increased exercise you get from the twice daily walks and, incidentally, contrary to what you might think, greyhounds do not require a lot of exercise.

"Basically, they are lazy dogs and two 20 to 30 minute walks a day with occasional free running in an enclosed field or similar will keep them happy.

"If you see us on our twice daily walks around Cowbridge, stop and talk to us and we will tell you all about it".

Greyhound Rescue Wales can be contacted on 03000123999 or via www.greyhoundrescuewales.co.uk

WHAT'S ON - *News in brief*

Councillors' surgery

THE Labour Vale and town councillors for Buttrills, Castleland and Court wards, Bronwen Brooks, Pamela Drake, Jeff Evans, Chris Elmore, Les Sword, Karl Khunell and Stuart Egan will be holding their regular, monthly advice surgery on Saturday, October 15 from 10am-11am in the Small Community Room, Barry Library, Kings Square. No appointment necessary.

Scouts' book sale

THE 1st Cowbridge Scout Group are holding their annual book sale this Saturday, October 15 at the Scout Hall from 10.30am-3.30pm. All welcome; free admission.

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www.cowbridge-today.co.uk
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Welsh wine winners

THE Welsh Vineyards Association's (WVA) annual wine competition was held at Llanerch Vineyard at Hensol in the Vale of Glamorgan, and saw 42 wines entered by nine vineyards from north to south Wales.

Ten bronze and five silver awards were made, with the best wine in each class also receiving a trophy. Kerry Vale Solaris 2014 was named as overall Wine of the Competition and received the The Thomas Davies Memorial Trophy.

The expert judging panel were: Linda Johnson-Bell wine critic, author and climate change analyst; Michael Harrison international wine judge and Bibendum Fine Wine manager; and David Cowderoy, wine maker and owner of Bevtec.

Said WVA chairman, Robb Merchant: "The interest in Welsh wines is growing as the quality improves. Presently, Welsh vineyards produce around 100,000 bottles a year and this is set to double by 2020."

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Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number D952.

● **£2,000:** 584520.

● **The rollover, which now stands at £5,000, was not won this week.**

● **£10:** 733621, 112840, 274728, 586418, 799046, 530708, 150257, 269494, 808441, 547743, 692412, 658462, 975158, 133107, 134802, 1027908, 5629117, 794, 244.

● **£5:** 451386, 179220, 220841, 664675, 366911, 153424, 551066, 809059, 754743, 781903, 282490, 123200, 898157, 838206, 107385, 456041, 829189, 701883, 356511, 852537, 814027, 137595, 143637, 652510, 677356, 488877, 837748, 670827, 903281, 700806, 326334, 860685, 588397, 621641, 426076, 691929, 818509, 729151, 608394, 950825, 255779, 687184, 304706, 179840, 233149, 145372, 689462, 426944, 296395, 425987, 467374, 321402, 703590, 700979, 556298, 947143, 466, 107, 1120022, 1938097.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please telephone 029 2053 2300.

Rhoose singer in line for top award

SINGER-songwriter Jack Ellis from Rhoose has beaten thousands of other acts to be named in the UK's top ten Unsigned Male Acts at the 2016 Unsigned Music Awards (UMAs).

Launched in 2012, the awards have seen more than 35,000 music fans cast their vote, including celebrities such as Welsh international footballer Gareth Bale.

Nominees are also put forward for 'The Critic's Choice Award', and Jack will hope his music impresses a panel of three industry experts.

The vote for Best Unsigned Male 2016 takes place at www.bobunsigned.com between October 17-23. Facebook: www.facebook.com/bobunsigned Twitter: @BoBUnsigned

This Girl is a Train crash of a film...

WHEN she made her debut in Pawel Pawlikowski's provocative and compelling *My Summer of Love* in 2004, Emily Blunt showed some serious acting nous, but it would have taken a bold person to predict how successful her career would turn out

Breaking out in *The Devil Wears Prada*, Blunt has gone on to successfully navigate a multitude of genres, delivery consistently strong turns, and her latest film sees her star in the adaptation of Paula Hawkins' *The Girl On The Train*.

With the location moved from England to New York, Blunt plays Rachel, a commuter who sees a couple (Haley Bennet and Luke Evans) every day from the window of her train.

When Rachel sees a shocking act in the couple's garden, and learns Megan is missing, feared dead, she begins her own investigation that may uncover some shocking truths, but is hampered by her alcoholism and her infatuation with her ex-husband and his new wife (Justin Theroux and Rebecca Ferguson)...

When adapting a book for the big screen (and let's face it, there's probably few at this point that haven't gone from page to film) the makers have to satisfy two audiences – the one that hasn't read the book and is watching the film without any great level of expectation, and the one that has read the book and is keen to see if the film version can better what they've already read.

After watching *The Girl On The Train* (and being in the former camp), it's hard to know just who is going to emerge satisfied, as the film is a predictable, flat and oddly lifeless piece of work. Promises of a twisting, turning thriller are broken, the story hitting predictable beats and the outcome telegraphed at least halfway through (the more observant may possibly get there before that).

One of the more positive aspects of the film is the cast, who do a fairly good job with what they're given. Emily Blunt offers a decent performance but doesn't quite get under the skin of the character; Rachel is your usual unreliable witness, her version of events possibly true but clouded by her lack of sobriety and addled memories (that clear up at just the right time for the story to shift up gears) and while Blunt gives the damaged character a bruised personality, she doesn't quite feel the right fit.

Haley Bennett as the girl Rachel sees from the train is meant to be another damaged soul, her backstory of heartbreak and sadness compelling, but doesn't play into the main narrative and feels tacked into it in order to provide a little more depth and make you sympathetic to what is a slightly annoying character.

Justin Theroux and Rebecca Ferguson are perfectly adequate, he as the man trying to juggle his new life with the echoes of his past in the shape of Rachel, while Ferguson's shrew-like wife sits nicely in the story.

But what really lets the film down is the by-numbers plotting, the constant resorting to red herrings and cliches (the usually superb Allison Janney is given the role of a detective whose only job is to disregard every piece of evidence Rachel offers her under the assumption Rachel is involved).

It aims for Hitchcock-like levels of suspense, but ends up merely echoing similar films that feature the same type of plot twists and story strands (both *Before I Go To Sleep* and Robert Zemeckis' supernatural Hitchcock-inspired *What Lies Beneath* are touchstones).

It's directed with very little panache by Tate Taylor, who bathes the film in steely blues and resorts to shaky effects every time Rachel takes a drink. While the thrust of the film should be Rachel's unreliability as a witness, instead of developing that and playing it up, instead Taylor makes it perfectly clear early on that Rachel is innocent and that the hunt for the perpetrator is on.

That we only meet four characters who it could be detracts from any surprise and simply reinforces the telegraphed ending.

What strives to be a *Gone Girl* instead ends up something more schlocky and less refined – *The Girl On The Train* suffers from a severe case of leaves on the line.

VERDICT – A damp squib of a film that fails to rise above its pulpy foundations, *The Girl On The Train* is a disappointing effort that feels all too familiar. The cast are fair to middling, but Tate Taylor's direction is flat and the story itself reveals its mysteries far too easily to make this a far from satisfying viewing experience. *Poor*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Gone Girl* (2014), *Before I Go To Sleep* (2014).

by GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter – @GEMScreenTalk

MP's story – *part three*

VETERAN MP Alan Johnson will be in Penarth on Sunday, November 6, to discuss the third volume of his memoirs with local MP Stephen Doughty at All Saints Church, Victoria Square, beginning at 2.30pm.

In the first volume, This Boy, Johnson described being brought up by his sister in the slums of London's West End. Volume two, Please Mister Postman, covered his time as a postman and union official.

In this latest volume, The Long and Winding Road, Johnson moves on to his political career, which culminated in being appointed Home Secretary in 2009.

Tickets are now available from Griffin Books at £10 each, including refreshments and a discount on book purchases.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Vale AM's surgery

THE Vale AM, Jane Hutt, will be holding a surgery from 4pm-5pm tomorrow (Friday, October 14), at Barry Citizens Advice Bureau, 119 Broad Street, CF62 7TZ. ***No appointment necessary.***

Valeways walks

ON Sunday, October 16 at 2pm, 'Coast, Lakes and Railway' starting at Penath cliff top car park.

On Wednesday, October 19 at 10.15yb, Pen mwyaf deheuol Cymru (Most southerly point in Wales), Gorsaf Reilffordd Y Rhws CF62 3HB.

Also on Wednesday, October 19 at 10.30am, the Barry Coffee Shop Strollers meet at Romilly Cafe, Cold Knap, Barry.

On October 19 at 2.30pm, the Cowbridge Coffee Shop Strollers meet at Cowbridge Physic Garden fountain.

On Sunday, October 23 at 2yb, Y Goedwig Hudl (Magic Forest), maes parcio Hensol Forestry Commission (ST 031768).

Royal residence talk

A MEETING takes place at 7.30pm on Wednesday, October 19 at The Duke of Wellington, when Phil Bowen will talk about 'Osborne House,' Queen Victoria and Prince Albert's holiday home. ***New members are always welcome.***

Bazaar

BETHEL House Bazaar takes place at Hebron Hall in Dinas Powys from 2pm–3.30pm on Saturday, November 12. Admission £2.50 to include tea and cakes.

Craft tables available at £5 each which can be booked before October 31. *Contact Sue or Julie on 02920 513162.*

Pink Floyd sound in Llantwit

FORMER Llantwit Major resident Daniel Bowles, will bring his London-based band What The Floyd? to recreate the sights and sounds of a Pink Floyd concert at Llantwit Major Rugby Club on Saturday, October 29.

The Australian guitarist's band has a reputation for authentic recreation of the Pink Floyd sound. Using high technology and a blazing light show, their current set is based on the legendary 1994 P.U.L.S.E. tour.

Daniel said: "I've always been fascinated by Pink Floyd's music and I decided to gather together some of the best players in the business to help me bring it to life.

"We're going to be touring a lot in 2017 and it made sense to kick things off in my home town. I can promise everyone who comes along that the club has not seen anything quite like this before!"

Tickets are £10 each, in advance from www.whatthefloyd.com and on the door (subject to availability) for £12.

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Brexit countdown: 'Pound has rough times ahead'

THE harsh reality of Brexit has been reflected by the pound becoming the worst performing currency in 2016.

Last Friday's flash crash caused the value of the pound to plummet an astonishing 8 per cent in a mere 240 seconds.

The pound has now fallen by 14 per cent since late May and by 19 per cent since the start of the year. It is the worst-performing major currency in 2016.

After a long period of stability, the damage is done and the British economy has now slipped to sixth from fifth place in the world. That is not good news for Theresa May, as she sets out to prove that the British economy is big and vigorous enough to stand on its own two feet and does not need to be in the European single market.

How much further can the pound fall? Last weekend, some forecasters mentioned the feared words "parity with the dollar". I think such talk is too pessimistic. The British economy, for the moment at least, is still the best performing in Europe and has so far shrugged off the threat even of a 'hard' Brexit, which is what we are now heading for.

The Bank of England's swift action to cut interest rates and supply liquidity has so far worked in keeping consumer spending up. A weak pound is good for exports and British exporters have actually been responding.

The service sector is also contributing. However, it will be a long time before the pound gets back to its pre-Brexit level, if it ever does.

It is surprising how many professional people, including bankers and economic journalists here in the UAE have been of the opinion that Britain will not go through with leaving the EU.

The fear now, as Jeremy Warner wrote in The Daily Telegraph, is that *"in markets there are growing fears that the (the UK's) heart will be allowed to rule the head, leading to an irrational and economically harmful outcome*".

Theresa May's message at the Conservative Party conference of a relatively harsh Brexit and first serious economic remarks have sent the wrong signals and went down badly overseas. The flash crash has shown just how dangerous that can be.

The pound has some rough times ahead before Brexit finally happens. To us British working overseas, it is to our financial advantage.

I note Liam Fox's comments last month: "*We are not leaving Europe; we are re-joining the rest of the world. I am optimistic about the future. My message is simple: Britain is open for business, and will be more and more so. We now have a whole department at the heart of government whose sole task is to open markets and boost flows of trade and investment which will promote both UK and global prosperity*".

The UAE has roundly disproven the doubts of those who scoffed at its vision two or three decades ago. Similarly, I hope that the United Kingdom will confound the sceptics and become the world's brightest beacon of open markets.

GARETH DAVIES,
(*Formerly of the Vale, now resident in Dubai*)

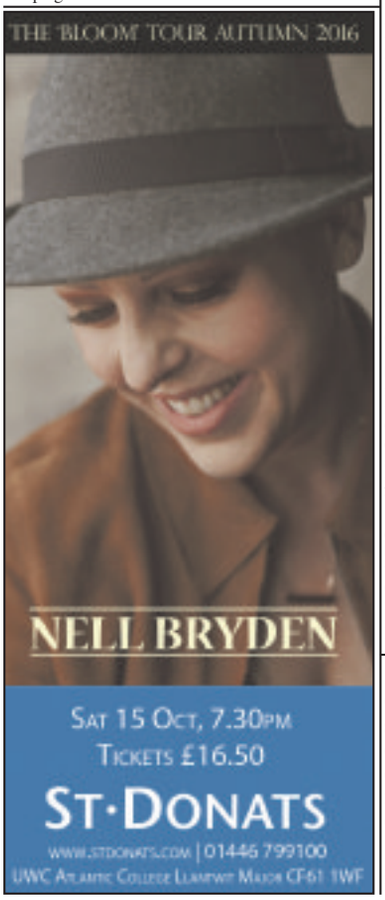
YMCA Barry joins mental stigma battle

A VALE of Glamorgan youth charity has thrown its support behind a major new mental health awareness campaign, as YMCA research reveals more than one in three young people with mental health difficulties experience stigma.

YMCA Barry is backing #IAMWHOLE, an anti-stigma campaign run by NHS in partnership with YMCA, on social media and through a series of mental health-themed events.

The #IAMWHOLE campaign was launched on Monday, World Mental Health Day, by UK hip-hop artist Jordan Stephens. National research compiled by YMCA for the campaign found that, of the young people who say they experience stigma around their mental health difficulties, more than a third (37 per cent) say it happens at least once a week; and 54 per cent say it originates from their own friends.

As part of its support, YMCA Barry, which has operated in Barry since 1890, is asking residents, staff and supporters to tweet photographs of themselves using the #IAMWHOLE hashtag with the campaign circle logo painted on their hands.



Welsh business activity up following Brexit

BUSINESS activity in Wales rose at the fastest rate since June 2015 in September, following the Brexit vote.

Wales' PMI – or purchasing managers' index – registered 56.2 in September, up from 54.9 in August. A reading of above 50 signifies expansion in business activity, while a reading below signals contraction.

The increase in business activity was mainly driven by a rise in new orders. Consequently, firms continued to hire new staff, although the rate of job creation was slightly weaker than in August.

The weak pound continued to affect businesses in September, with input costs continuing to rise. As a result, companies increased their selling prices to offset higher costs. The Lloyds Bank PMI, is the leading economic health-check of UK regions.

It is based on responses from manufacturers and services businesses about the volume of goods and services produced during September compared with a month earlier.

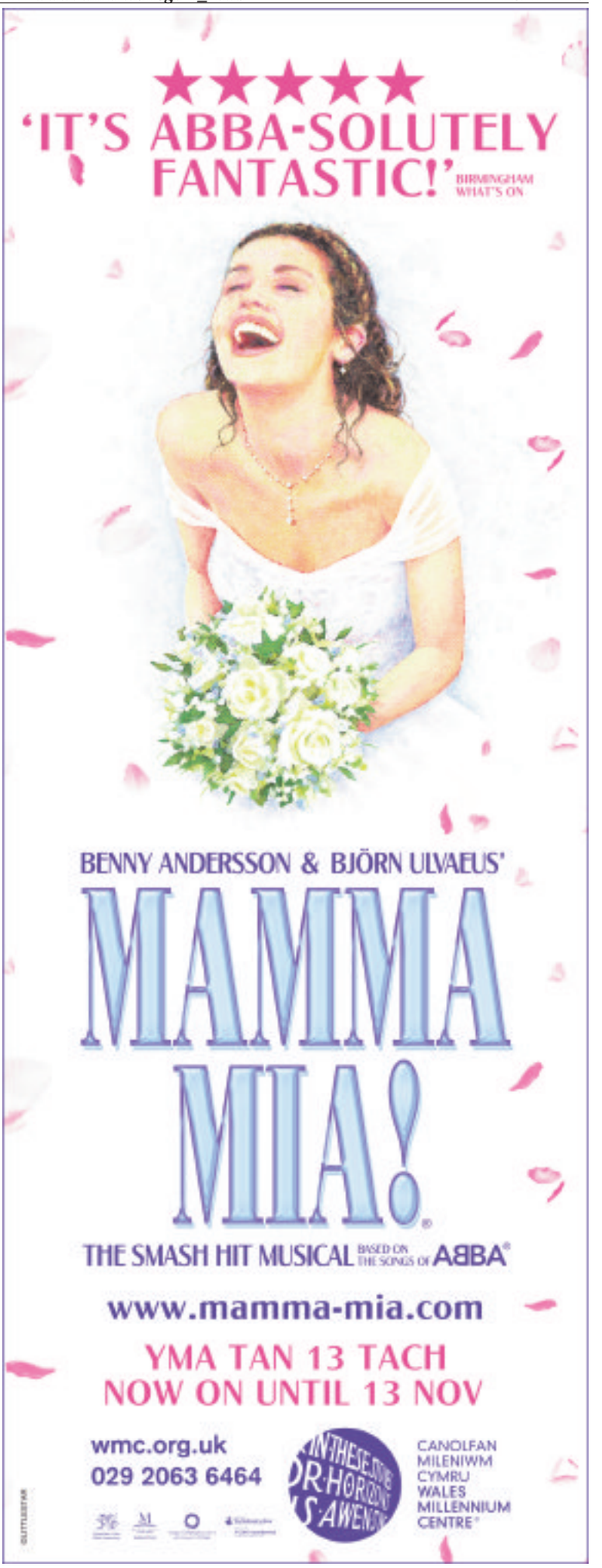
Allan Griffiths, regional director for SME Banking, Lloyds Bank Commercial Banking, said: "Operating conditions in the Welsh private sector continued to improve in September following an initial moderation in the aftermath of the Brexit vote.

"While that is good news for companies across Wales, it's essential that businesses plan carefully so that they are prepared for any challenges that may occur over the coming months."

WINTER FAIR TRIP

ON November 28-29, the Royal Welsh showground hosts a Winter Fair and a coach will leave on November 28, departing from Cheapside at 9.30am and returning at 7pm after the fireworks display.

Profits will go to the Bridge Mentoring Scheme in Bridgend. Contact 07505 530567 or contact manuelahiett@aol.com.



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COLOURS OF AUTUMN... A REMINDER OF JOBS TO DO IN THE GARDEN

NOVEMBER is all about compost and getting everything ready for winter. Leaves have finally fallen and most plants will have become dormant.

In fact, clearing leaves and cutting back dead growth is top of the agenda this month – which is great news because leaves and garden debris are perfect ingredients for homemade compost.

While the glories of summer have long passed, there should still be lots of interest in your garden.

Look out for the bright berries of the Cotoneaster, or the colourful evergreen foliage of the various holly varieties, and, of cours,e there is always the stunning Dogwood (Cornus).

Dogwoods are reliable and hardy shrubs that not only provide a luscious leafy backdrop to summer flowers but have a rainbow of leaf colours through the autumn and then go on to reveal brilliant wand-like stems.

During winter, the brightly coloured stems of dogwoods catch the sunlight to create dazzling displays and although small gardens might only have space for a single plant, in can be positioned where the low winter sun will shine through.

With vibrant stems of intense red, orange and golden yellow it's no wonder varieties have been given names such as Winter Beauty and Midwinter Fire.

In the summer, many shrubby dogwoods carry clusters of tine flowers, usually a creamy-white colour, which often lead on to form dense heads of white berries in autumn.

Dogwoods grow well in almost any soil and are best in a sunny position.

As the first winter frosts arrive, there are still a few jobs to be done before bedding the garden down for winter – as the gardening experts explain.

Winter is on its way. Leaves are falling rapidly, and wind and rain are on the increase.

Tender plants will need protecting from frost, gales and freezing rains.

Move plants into the greenhouse, or into a sheltered spot, but if you can't, it is worth wrapping plants or pots in situ with gardening fleece. Remember winter can be a tough time for birds in terms of water and food, so keep supplies well topped up.

The garden begins to wind down in November, but there are still gardening jobs to do this month to prepare for winter.

Now is the time to move any tender plants into the greenhouse, conservatory or porch to shelter them as frosts can cause serious damage to plants.

RHS

You should also protect any delicate or exotic plants from winter weather with straw and hessian on the crown and around the trunk.

Bulbs need to be in the ground over winter to flower in spring. Plant spring bulbs like tulips and daffodils now along with other spring-flowering plants like pansies and wallflowers.

Another important winter gardening job is to stake tall plants, climbers and young trees. The stakes should be sturdy enough to withstand strong winds.

David Domoney, TV gardener and presenter

Plant tulip bulbs in pots and borders and cover them with at least twice their depth of soil or compost.

Take hardwood cuttings from healthy fruit bushes, including currants, blueberries and gooseberries and prune autumn-fruiting raspberries to the ground after harvesting.

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THESE CREEPY CLOWNS ARE NOT SO FUNNY

by Andy Johnstone

When America sneezes, Britain catches a cold.

The latest craze to descend on UK shores from across the pond is the 'creepy-clown' phenomenon, where someone affects the guise and make-up of the famous style of circus performer, but with a sinister motive.

Creepy clowns lurk in public places or leap out at people, sometimes children, or the elderly, causing distress and distrust of the generally benign style of entertainer.

A spokesperson for South Wales Police is reminding people that dressing up as clowns, or in costumes, to frighten others intentionally, will have consequences.

The spokesperson added: "I can confirm that, force-wide, we have received approximately 30 calls relating to clown incidents over the weekend."

The spokesperson said that there were no specific figures for Bridgend or the Vale, but reports have reached The GEM of creepy-clown incidents in Llantwit Major, St Athan and Brackla.

The spokesperson said: "We would like to remind people that this behaviour can cause concern and worry, particularly to young children and the elderly, and they may end up committing an offence."

A creepy clown

Craft makers' display

COWBRIDGE U3A craft makers are presenting work done since their launch three years ago, in the display cabinet at the entrance to Cowbridge Library.

It includes paper craft, jewellery making, dry and wet felting and "individual pictures depicting something about ourselves".

For further information yoga-pauline@tiscali.co.uk.

Christmas fair

BRYNHILL Golf Club Christmas fayre takes place on Tuesday, November 1 from 6pm–9pm; £1 entry. Refreshments available.

Please note Brynhill Golf Club's AGM takes place on November 22 at 7pm.

Friends Against Scams are out to foil the fraudsters

FOLLOWING recent revelations that a Porthcawl resident came close to being scammed out of a large sum of money by a convincing phone scam, Shared Regulatory Services (SRS) is supporting the Friends Against Scams initiative in order to raise awareness of the financial and emotional impact of mass marketing scams.

Shared Regulatory Services is a partnership between Bridgend, Cardiff, and the Vale of Glamorgan Council, and has taken steps to support residents at risk of being scammed.

A spokesman said: "This move comes after a woman from Porthcawl received a telephone call from someone claiming to be from Talk Talk. She granted the caller remote access to her computer after being told there had been unusual activity on her modem.

"The caller said someone had tried to hack into it, and so the modem would need to be changed. The fraudster eventually offered £200 as an apology for the problem.

"The caller then asked the resident to log into her bank account, where she would see that £3,200 had mistakenly been put into her account. The caller claimed to have made a terrible mistake and convinced the resident to send a cheque for £3,000.

"Her suspicions became aroused, however, when the caller asked the resident to go to the post office and send a money order, in dollars, to Georgia.

"She went to her bank's local branch, where they confirmed that no such refund had gone into her account.

"As a result, the resident has since refused calls from the caller, who she had thought was representing Talk Talk, and has taken other sensible steps: getting the bank to monitor her account; adding anonymous call barring to her telephone; having her computer checked over to confirm there is no malware on it."

Friends Against Scams aims to protect people from becoming victims of scams by empowering communities to 'take a stand against scams'.

For more information, visit: http://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk

Dads bare their feelings for Ty Hafan hospice calendar

Dads Brad Watson, Gary Footman, Lee Morgan and Ben Jones.

BRAVE Tŷ Hafan dads have stripped off for a nude calendar – to raise funds and awareness for the Vale-based charity that cares for their family and supports them through their darkest times.

As well as raising a few smiles, the calendar – launched at the Tramshed in Cardiff last Thursday – holds a deeper meaning for all the dads involved, who revealed the reality of raising a child with a life-limiting condition and how they cope when their child sadly dies.

Gareth Jenkins, Tŷ Hafan male support worker, has led the project alongside photographer, Paul Fears, who is also a Tŷ Hafan dad:

"Dads are often expected to remain strong for the rest of the family, but this calendar shows that behind their tough exterior, they feel vulnerable, too," said Gareth.

"We hope the public not only have smiles on their faces when looking at our pictures, but also a better understanding of what life can be like for our dads and why it's vital that they don't face their struggles alone."

Cowbridge Art Society

ON Thursday, October 13, the Cowbridge Art Society will have a demonstration of creating a portrait in charcoal by art tutor Sheila Bryant.

On October 20, Pembrokeshire artist Graham Hadlow will give a demonstration of painting a landscape in watercolour.

The society meets on Thursdays (7pm-9pm) at the Old Hall, Cowbridge. Visitors and new members most welcome; see www.cowbridgeartsociety.com.

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Nigel Owens recalls the dark days as he supports Samaritans

SAMARITANS Cymru launched their 2015/16 'Impact Report' for World Mental Health Day on Monday, October 10, with the support of respected Welsh international rugby referee, Nigel Owens MBE.

NIGEL OWENS.

The report demonstrates how Samaritans Cymru helps people who are struggling to cope in Wales, from reaching out to high-risk groups and communities to their partnerships with prisons, schools, hospitals and rail staff.

This is alongside their ongoing engagement with Welsh Government and the National Assembly to influence policy and legislation surrounding suicide prevention in Wales.

Health Secretary Vaughan Gething AM, said: "I'd like to thank Samaritans for their excellent and long-standing work, particularly around suicide prevention."

"We take the issue of mental health and well-being extremely seriously. Our strategy, 'Together for Mental Heath', is designed to improve the mental well-being of all people in Wales. We want to ensureanyone who needs to access high quality, mental health services can do so and that they are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve."

Samaritans Cymru are emphasising the importance of men talking about their emotional and mental health with the latest ONS statistics which reveal 81 per cent of all suicides in Wales in 2014 were men.

Nigel Owens said: "I'm proud to be supporting the Samaritans Cymru 2015/16 Impact Report.

"With suicide rates for men being the highest since 1981 in Wales, I am right behind their aim of emphasising the importance of men talking about their emotional and mental health.

"In the past, when I was suffering with mental health issues surrounding my dealing with my sexuality, I wish I had been more aware of charities like Samaritans, who are always there to help.

"If I had, perhaps I wouldn't have ended up in such a dark place and so close to losing my life."

In Wales, Samaritans has nine branches which manage their emotional support service. The demand for the service is ever increasing – in 2015, it took a call every three minutes in Wales and received 175,767 calls for help.

Sarah Stone, executive director for Samaritans in Wales, said: "Suicide is now the single biggest killer of men aged under 45 in the UK. \

"We need to get better at tackling the social issues men in Wales face.

"We need to open up a dialogue in which men feel more able to talk about mental health and suicidal feelings – and we especially need to target men in mid-life, living in situations of deprivation."

PUPILS ARE MAKING A MINT!

CHILDREN from Llancarfan Primary School discovered how to spot fake coins during an exciting day out to the Royal Mint Experience in Llantrisant.

They weighed, measured and examined, deciding whether the coins were the genuine article or cunning forgeries.

After the workshop, the children looked around the Mint and its museum, with each minting their own individual 2016 one pound coin.

This was especially exciting, as with the advent of the new 12-sided pound coin next year, the mint will not be putting 2016 coins into circulation.

Thanks to all at the Mint for a fab day out and for Edwards coaches for getting us there.

Rob Bilney

Llancarfan pupils – coining it in at Llantrisant!.

Local companies show Aerospace expertise

SIX Welsh companies, including St Athan Aerospace Business Park and Spectrum Technologies, Bridgend, will be showcasing the best that the Welsh aerospace industry has to offer at MRO Europe – the largest event of its kind outside north America.

Some 20 per cent of the UK's maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) business is placed in Wales. MRO Europe, which this year takes place at RAI Amsterdam from October 18-20, is the annual highlight for the commercial air transport MRO industry and is seen as the place to forge new partnerships.

As a direct result of participating in the event in 2015, Welsh businesses scooped a collective £2.8 million of deals.

Attended by the likes of Airbus, Boeing, BA and Bombardier, last year, the trade conference received over 6,400 visitors to the event – the largest in its history.

For the fifth consecutive year, leading names from the Welsh aerospace industry will come together on the Welsh Government stand to promote their expertise and services and highlight that Wales is a great place to do business.

Redundancy fears at British Airways, Rhoose

AS The GEM was going to press, an unconfirmed report said that staff at British Airways Maintenance Cardiff Ltd (BAMC), based at Cardiff Airport, may be planning 66 redundancies at the engineering base in Rhoose.

The caller, who did not wish to be identified, said that the announcement was made to one shift last night, with further meetings scheduled for Wednesday, October 12.

Full details are sketchy, but various sources expressed concern that staff were, he said, being made redundant whilst new contractors were being taken on, including for a retrofit of British Airways' Boeing 747s with wi-fi.

The GEM asked BA for comment, and a spokesperson replied: "We are consulting with our colleagues and union at BAMC about restructuring proposals to ensure we continue to deliver a sustainable and competitive service.

"While the consultation continues we are not able to discuss further details."

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: "I have requested a meeting with BA to seek reassurances for the long-term future of the site in light of the planned staff reduction. I will also be pressing BA to provide more detail regarding their decision to make technicians redundant.

"The aircraft maintenance skills that exist here in the Vale are second to none. My priority will be to ensure that the next generation of aircraft are maintained here in the Vale following the retirement of older planes from service."

The GEM will report further next week.

Are you affected by these proposed redundancies? If so, please contact this newspaper at gemeditorial@tindlenews.co.uk including your name, address and telephone number.

ANDY JOHNSTONE

BARRY MEN'S FORUM ARE TOLD ALL ABOUT UFOS...

MIKE CHEESEMAN gave a thought provoking talk with numerous photographs and film of Unidentified Flying Objects, the definition of which is 'A mysterious object seen in the sky for which it is claimed no orthodox scientific explanation can be found', often supposed to be a vehicle carrying extra-terrestrial beings.

These sightings are not just recent – there are records of them going back to the Egyptians, 3000 years ago, referred to in carvings and papayas writings.

The famous astrologer, Edmund Haley, first recorded 'Halley's Comet', also recorded in 1556 a UFO.

Mike said in the last two years there have been 720 unexplained UFOs, and many more that have been explained as lights, clouds, aircraft and numerous hoaxes, but even so this left a large number of unexplained sightings, which left him convinced that some may be really from outer space.

There are also thousands of alleged abductions, with some people being taken for short periods and others for weeks, and when they have been returned many of them have high levels of radiation.

Also others claim of seeing 'aliens', evidence is very slim to be able to prove.

The members agreed that although there were many unexplained claims, most were sceptical of their veracity.

At the next meeting on October 20, Mr Nick John Rees – will be talking about marine art.

The Barry Men's Forum meet at the Trinity Presbyterian Church Hall, every Thursday morning starts at 10.15am and finishes by noon. New members are welcome, and charge is £2 per meeting, which includes light refreshments.

For further information, contact the secretary on 01446 741498, or email philipwalters3434@gmail.com.

PMW

'Extended tick season' warning from Met Office

THE Met Office has predicted that temperatures will rise above 20°C this month, making it one of the warmest autumns in recent years.

However, according to experts, this also means that the tick season will be longer than usual, with the tiny parasites more likely to continue breeding and feeding in the UK's grassland and wooded areas.

Dogs and their owners are most at risk as they are more likely to venture into the countryside on walks.

Mark Spurlock of Bob Martin warns: "Ticks may seem harmless because of their size, but a small number carry diseases, like Lyme disease and Babesiosis, which can be very serious for animals and humans.

"We would always recommend prevention, so pet owners should be aware they need to continue their tick control longer this year because of the warmer weather.

"We expect the tick season to extend until the end of October, so protect yourself and your family."

Veterans' centre that will honour Barry Marine 'Woody' is nearing completion

by Andy Johnstone

As if to emphasise the need for a veterans' centre, and for improved communication to former HM Armed Forces personnel, news reaches The GEM of just such a project in the Vale.

Readers will recall a piece in the edition of September 22 featuring Robert Adams, a Barry resident and veteran, and his call for a veterans' centre.

Dr David Trotman, chairman of Woody's Lodge Management Board (WLMB), contacted The GEM about work to establish a centre for veterans at RNR HMS Cambria.

WLMB comprises six veterans and one civilian, and since last year, has been working to open the centre, which is named after and commemorates the life of local Royal Marine, Paul 'Woody' Woodland.

Woody, a member of the Special Boat Service, died in October 2012 during a training exercise whilst preparing for deployment to Afghanistan.

Dr Trotman said: "Initial analysis shows that there are more than 5,000 veterans residing in Barry alone with over 60 per cent of these residents, now over the age of 65 years, many of whom are possibly facing welfare, health and social problems.

"Woody's Lodge will be there to offer companionship and direct signposting to agencies and organisations that offer required skilled support.

The concept for the project has come from the hangar floor, engine room, and the sentry box, in that it is based on the needs, experiences and wishes of veterans currently living within the Vale.

Woody's Lodge will provide support for veterans in three main areas:

a safe, quiet, secure and happy environment for veterans to meet, share experiences and build friendships, "to pull up a sandbag have a brew".

The late Paul 'Woody' Woodland, a Royal Marine, after whom the veterans' drop-in centre is named.

Woody's Lodge will also provide the space for activities such as art, music and gardening, if veterans so wish to join, to which they will be welcomed free of charge.

Woody's Lodge will provide office accommodation and private spaces, free of charge, to veteran support agencies. Some 22 organisations, including NHS services, have expressed an interest in being based at Woody's Lodge and have a fixed foothold within the locality.

Woody's Lodge also provides the agencies working there to talk and liaise with each other in order to work more closely together and provide 'joined up' support for veterans.

Dr Trotman said: "The WLMB wishes to express its indebtedness to the Royal Navy staff and Command at RNR HMS *Cambria*, as well the Reserve Forces and Cadets' Association, Wales, in allowing access to former naval-rating housing at the station, and allowing the group to undertake the required refurbishment of the building and getting it up to a serviceable standard."

The building will include a suite of four office spaces for staff, volunteers and agency workers to meet with veterans, and on the ground-floor, a kitchen, loos and a large social space – former living rooms – for people to meet and chat.

Woody's Lodge will be open for veterans between 10am and 2pm Monday to Thursday for 48 weeks a year.

Dr Trotman added that, with help of veterans from the Royal Corps of Signals, WLMB has been able to establish disabled access to and from Woody's Lodge.

WLMB is looking at the issue of transport, such as a pick-up service around Barry for those who have difficulty in getting around.

There is also the potential to run a shuttle service to and from Cadoxton Station, for veterans who wish to travel from Cardiff, the Valleys and Bridgend.

The WLMB and project has gained support from the Vale Council-led Armed Forces' Covenant Group, and further information will be released as developments occur.

Learn CPR and save a life

READERS will recall the quick reactions of Llantwit Major's Tom Wood (The GEM September 29), who performed cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) on a gentleman in Galton's barber in the town.

Aged just 14, Tom, whom learnt his CPR skills in the Air Cadets, kept the man alive until the professionals arrived.

Tom learnt young, and Welsh Hearts/Calonnau Cymru – the heart charity for Wales – will run a drop-in session on CPR training at the National Assembly this Monday, October 17, from 10.30 to 4pm for anyone aged 10 or over. Youngsters should attend with parents or guardians, or their teachers.

Those attending can learn basic life-saving skills including how to perform CPR and use a defibrillator, so that, if the time comes, a life can be saved.

All people attending and completing the training will receive a certificate, and light liquid refreshments are available.

For more information and to book a place go to wwww.welshhearts.org/training or call 02920 647735.

'Lavernock could join Penarth'

SAYS COUNCILLOR

A PROPOSAL that Lavernock become a part of Penarth, has been mooted by a long standing Penarth councillor, who sees several benefits for residents if they came into the town.

Coun Ernest, who has been a town councillor for many years, and is a former Penarth Mayor and past chairman of the Vale of Glamorgan Council, said this week that Lavernock Park, (or Cosmeston as some prefer to name it), had gained nothing from being "lumped in" with Sully, and that most residents saw their future within Penarth, not least with schools and shopping.

Coun Ernest, who represents the adjoining Plymouth Ward of Penarth continued: "Having represented Lavernock in the past for a number of years, I was acutely concious that residents in the large and very popular estate contributed heavily to the precept of Sully Council, yet never had anything in return for their council tax levies.

"Unfortunately the powers of smaller councils are relatively limited and that may be why no facilities were ever provided in this well-liked residential area with over 1,000 residents.

"Even today, some five years later, Lavernock is no better off under Sully than some much smaller villages in the rural Vale.

"I am very concious also that the local councillors for that area try hard to be effective, but they suffer from a lack of funding and political representation at higher levels, and that does not help them one bit", the councillor continued.

"If Lavernock Park (and only Lavernock Park) were to come into Penarth, residents would undoubtedly benefit from improved representation and undoubted investment from a much better resourced local council, and they may well want to consider this at a time when they are threatened by yet more housing developments, that threaten to obliterate the boundaries between Penarth and Sully with nothing to show in return," he concluded.

PACT *meetings*

***BARUC PACT** on Thursday, October 20 at 7pm in St Barucs Church Hall, Phyllis Street Barry Island.*

***BUTTRILLS PACT**, Town Council Offices, Gladstone Road, Barry, on October 27 at 6.30pm.*

***CADOC** – meet your local officers at Waitrose, Palmerston Road, Barry, between 11am and 1pm.*

***RHOOSE Coffee and Chat** at the Six Bells, Penmark, on October 25 at 11am.*

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The First Step to a Better Smile

Christmas Party Guide

Variety is the spice of Christmas with a huge choice of places to enjoy your party!

The most wonderful time of the year – Christmas – is approaching once more, and that means the office party season.

While the office, club or society party can be the highlight of the year – it can also be a disaster unless it is held at the right venue with good food.

Well in the Vale and Bridgend there are no excuses. The choice of venues, restaurants, pubs and hotels is hugely varied, and they can cater for Christmas parties to suit groups of varying sizes.

There are lots of places which offer traditional fare – turkey and Christmas pudding – which remain as popular as ever.

But for those looking for something a bit more daring and exotic, many venues now offer a new twist on the basic menu with other options designed to satisfy the more demanding palate.

But whichever meal you prefer, the important thing is that top quality foodstuffs are used and that they are properly cooked and beautifully presented.

The ambience at Christmas events is also crucial – roaring log fires and crackers may be a bit of a cliché – but it's what most people expect.

Many hotels and restaurants spend a lot of money on really top class decorations which are a world away from the tinsel and tack of yesteryear.

A room beautifully decorated in swags of greenery, coloured berries and subtly lit with candlelight is probably the finest setting for celebrating the most important event in the calendar.

It is worth asking whether your venue is making efforts to create a good Christmas atmosphere with decorations and festive hits.

So, with good food, fine wines and the right setting, the only other ingredient necessary for a great night out is the company.

It's a great opportunity to relax with colleagues you work with for 12 months of the year and don't get a proper chance to discuss things other than work-related topics.

Lots of Christmas get-togethers are staged by organisations – ranging from choirs, art societies, WIs, charity fundraisers and sporting groups – in fact any organisation which brings people together.

Most organise a Christmas event which gives members, who perhaps only see each other once a week, a chance to enjoy each other's company in more relaxing circumstances.

Yes, there's plenty to be said for the Christmas party. Just make sure you ensure that yours is as good as it can be by hiring the right venue for you and your group – whether it be a cosy country inn or a grand hotel where everyone can really dress up.

The choice is yours – and it's a wide one.

DON'T MISS OUT ON YOUR FIRST CHOICE VENUE

TIME is running out to book the first choice venue for the office Christmas party.

Hotels and restaurants in the Vale and Bridgend have got a good reputation for providing not only good festive meals, but entertainment as well.

So it is time to make a decision.

It is best for someone to volunteer to organise things, and consult with colleagues on what would make a really great night out.

What sort of party do your staff fancy? A sit down meal, so that working colleagues can enjoy a relaxing evening? Or perhaps the people at your work place want the excitement of a disco or a themed evening like an 80s night?

Ladies are often keen to have a dance – some of the chaps less so, and need a little encouragement for their annual spin on the dance floor.

Some venues do party evenings that cater for lots of companies on the same night.

Once you've made your decision, it's time to lift the phone and make that all important booking – now, before you miss out!

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Carer is in line for Nurse of the Year award

A BRIDGEND-based care home manager is in the running for a major award.

Angela Rees spent many years working as a qualified mental health nurse before moving into home management. She now works for Integra Community Living Options, who have a number of care homes across south Wales for adults aged over 18.

Angela is in charge of Integra's Ty Newydd care home in Roath, Cardiff, which cares for a small number of women aged 18 to 65 with mental health issues.

Her dedicated approach to caring has earned Angela a place in the 2016 Wales Care Awards at City Hall in Cardiff on Friday, October 21. The event, organised by Care Forum Wales is known as the social care organisers and honours people who have the X-Factor in social care.

Angela, who has been shortlisted in the Nurse of the Year category of the awards sponsored by Ontex UK, is originally from Aberdare and began her training as a mental health nurse at the age of 18 at the Whitchurch Hospital in Cardiff, qualifying three years later, and has spent her entire career in either the health or social care sectors.

PLEA FOR POPPY APPEAL VOLUNTEERS

THE Royal British Legion (RBL) is asking for volunteers for the 2016 Poppy Appeal from October 24 to November 12.

Anyone – with military service or not – interested in volunteering should contact Andrew Reekie, Bridgend branch of the RBL, on 01656 669988.

Treat in store for Penarth Ramblers

ON a superb sunny autumnal morning, Geraint from Penarth and District Ramblers played host to a group of 10 walkers who joined him at the Twyn in Dinas Powys, for a circular ramble to Cosmeston Country Park, and back again.

Station Road steps and a narrow walkway led them to the busy A4055 and underneath the Coffinmakers Railway Bridge, named after a coffin makers business that used to be nearby.

After crossing a stile onto Sully Road and heading south, avoiding the traffic before entering a field behind Home Farm's listed stone barn and large dung heap, a farm track led on to a muddy gateway and downhill into Cosmeston Country Park.

After morning refreshments at the ruined medieval dovecote and turning northwards along Mile Road to reach Old Cogan Hall Farm, a treat was in store as the tiny church dedicated to St Peter, which fell into disuse during the 18th century but was lovingly restored by John, Marquis of Bute, was open.

Over the years, there have been many alterations but the small chancel is Saxon, while the chancel arch and nave and font relate to the Norman era. Within the lower part of the church walls are some fine examples of herring bone masonry and above the altar is the delightful bronze reredos which was presented by Lord Bute and is an adaptation of the Transfiguration of Christ. However, the church is sadly infected with damp, which is creeping into the walls and floors, and the Friends of St Peter's are endeavouring to raise funds to alleviate the problems and keep this historic building alive for years to come.

Re-joining Sully Road, a narrow lane led to the road and past the old St Cyres School, now earmarked for building houses, and joining the Ash Path down to the Murch, they retraced their steps back to Dinas for refreshments at the Cross Keys Inn.

On October 15, meet at 9.30am at Cogan Leisure Centre for a seven-mile moderate walk taking in Castell Coch and The Wenallt; contact Geraint on 029 2051 5278.

On October 19, the mid-week walk will leave Cogan at 7.30am in order to catch the 9.20am bus from Chepstow to Monmouth followed by the 17-mile hard linear walk back to Chepstow; contact William on 07528 701 952.

To follow the group please log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or Facebook.

JOY STRANGWARD

Health chief goes to Doha

PROFESSOR Adam Cairns of Cardiff & Vale University Health Board has been appointed chief executive officer of Al Wakra Hospital, Doha.

Mr Cairns said: "It has been a great privilege to serve as CEO of Cardiff and Value University Health Board (CAV UHB) and I would like to thank my fellow board members for their unstinting support.

"I would also like to pay tribute to everyone who works at CAV; their passion and dedication has been a constant source of inspiration to me. I would like to wish everyone at the Health Board great success for the future."

Rocks, minerals and fossils in the geology room. All photos by LIAM KENNY

Students show pupils around their school

RIGHT: It is amazing what you can find in the lab.

BARRY Comprehensive School's students and staff were delighted to welcome visitors to the school's annual year-6 open evening recently.

The year-5 and 6 students, their parents/guardians and families were treated to a range of demonstrations, experiments and workshops.

The enthusiastic future students joined in as they explored the classrooms, labs and workshops. The visitors were able to chat to current students about their experiences at school as well as talking to teachers about the range of subjects and support on offer.

Headteacher, Gerard McNamara said: "The open evening was a great success. Following on from our second year of record-breaking GCSE results, visitors were interested to find out what Barry Comprehensive has to offer. We look forward to seeing our year-5 and 6 visitors again as they prepare for their move to secondary education."

KNIGHTS
ESTATE AGENTS • CHARTERED SURVEYORS RICS

Barry (01446) 700222
Lettings (01446) 701333
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NEW
BROOKFIELD AVENUE, BARRY
£285,000
Four/five bedroom detached residence
Benefiting from a granny annex
Offering flexible accommodation

NEW
COLLEGE FIELDS CLOSE, BARRY
£99,950
Two bedroom ground floor apartment
Off road parking and no chain
Central location

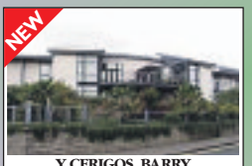
NEW
WHITE FARM, BARRY
£240,000
Persimmon four bedroom detached residence
Ideal family home on popular development
Low maintenance rear garden

NEW
RHODFA SWELDON, BARRY
£220,000
Three storey, three bedroom townhouse
Waterfront location with sea views
Close to all local amenities

NEW
CANON STREET, BARRY
£168,000
Two double bedroom traditional property
Sought after West end location
Walking distance of parks, beaches and shops

NEW
FERN DRIVE, BARRY
£118,000
Two bedroom end link property
Central location with no chain
Driveway for three vehicles

NEW
LAKIN DRIVE, BARRY
£395,000
Five double bedroom detached residence
Views across farmland and countryside
Ideal family accommodation


NEW
Y CERIGOS, BARRY
£325,000
Three double bedroom f/f apartment
Highly desirable West end location
Lakeside and sea views. No chain

NEW
HOLLYROOD CLOSE, BARRY
£192,950
Modern three bedroom detached
Popular development in North Barry
Driveway and garage

CLOS MANCHELDOWNE, BARRY
£135,000
Barratt 'Roseberry' two bedroom mid link property
Waterfront location close to all amenities
Energy saving solar panels

AFAL SUR, BARRY
£249,950
Three bedroom detached residence
Set on popular Pencoedtre Village
Generous off road parking

HELLAS DRIVE, BARRY
£339,000
Alternative living accommodation
Four double bedrooms. No chain
Golf course and Vale views

PONTYPRIDD ROAD, BARRY
£257,950
Two/three bedroomed detached bungalow
West end location. No chain.
Mature, large garden

ST JAMES CRESCENT, BARRY
£379,950
Five/six bedroom executive residence
Ideal family accommodation
Sought after location with views

COURTLANDS, BARRY
£99,950
Two bedroom ground floor apartment
West end location. No chain
Close to local amenities

LAVERNOCK POINT, SULLY
£29,500
Two bedroom holiday chalet
Sully/Penarth location
Offered for sale with No Chain

WOODLANDS COURT, BARRY
£89,950
Two double bedroom first floor apartment
Town centre Location
Offered for sale with No Chain

THE OLD CHAPEL, BARRY
£345,0000
Grade II Listed detached chapel
Four bedroom in central location
Detached garage with bespoke accommodation above

84 HIGH STREET, BARRY CF62 7DX WWW.KNIGHTS.UK.COM

pa black
Prestige homes from Peter Alan Ltd

PRESTIGE ESTATE AGENCY of the YEAR 2015
THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE TIMES

Cowbridge
01446 772857
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52 High Street, Cowbridge
www.pablack.co.uk

Tithe Barn **Picketston**

- A sympathetically modernised barn conversion
- 5 bedrooms
- 2 reception rooms, study and reception hall
- Fully fitted kitchen with Aga
- Mature gardens, stable block and paddocks
- Peaceful rural location close to Cowbridge
- EPC = D

£495,000

Fonmon Hall **Fonmon**

- Well presented 4 bedroom property
- Extended Kitchen/Breakfast room
- Large Principal Bedroom
- Gardens and grounds extending to 1.5 acres
- Idyllic country location
- Additional paddock available on request
- EPC = D

£575,000

Flemingston Grange **Flemingston**

- Five/Six Bedrooms
- Four en-suite Bathrooms
- Four/five reception rooms
- Extensive level gardens of approx 1 acre
- Self contained annex
- Double garage
- EPC = D

£625,000

We're delighted to invite you to our

pa black Cheese & Wine Evening!

Wednesday 19th October

To celebrate a successful year since opening we would like to invite you to enjoy cheese and wine at the branch for our anniversary celebration on Wednesday 19th October, 4:30pm - 7:30pm

Our team will be available to answer any questions you may have about the services we offer, and there will also be one of our mortgage specialists available who will be able to explain the house-buying process and all the costs involved.

For more information or to arrange a free, no obligation market appraisal of your home please contact us today 01446 772857

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www.peteralan.co.uk

OPEN WEEKEND
Fri 21st Oct – Sun 23rd Oct
10.00am – 4.00pm

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Cartref, St Donat's
5 Bedrooms
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Beautifully Refurbished Throughout
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Rhoose 01446 711900
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sales@chris-davies.co.uk

Sea View Place, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. Cloaks/WC.
Period Features.
Well Presented.
£209,950 D61

Church Street, Wick
3 Bedrooms. Gardens
Driveway. Garage
No Forward Chain
£249,950 D58

St. Johns View, St Athan
2 Beds. Conservatory.
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£194,950 E40

Voss Park Drive, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms
2 Receptions.
Well Presented.
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Tathan Crescent, St Athan
4 Double Bedrooms
Corner Plot
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£189,950

Heol Y Fro, Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
Conservatory
Rarely Available
£209,950 D60

Cwrt Syr Dafydd, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. 3 Recps.
Utility. Conservatory.
Open Green Space to Rear.
£259,950 E51

Gildas Close, Llantwit Major
Extended 4 Beds.
2 Recps. En-Suite.
Driveway. Garage.
£244,950 C70

Samson Street, Llantwit Major
2 Bed. Driveway
Popular Position
Conservatory
£139,950 C69

Glyndwr Avenue, St Athan
3 Beds. 2 Recps.
Driveway for 3 Cars.
Potential to extend.
£139,950 E50

Partridge Road, St Athan
2 Bedrooms
GCH 2016 Combi
No Chain
£104,950 D60

Samson Street, Llantwit Major
2 Beds. Garage.
Conservatory.
Modern Boiler.
£129,950 C69

Scott Close, St Athan
2 Bedrooms
No Forward Chain
Kitchen/Diner
£79,950 E54

Partridge Road, St Athan
2 Beds. Loft Room.
GCH Combi.
Countryside Views.
£105,950 E45

St Davids Crescent, St Athan
2 Bedrooms.
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£110,950 C70

Bullfinch Road, St Athan
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Landscaped Rear
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One bedroom.
Private garden.
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GCH Combi. Driveway.
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Garage. Driveway
£174,950 D58

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2 Beds. Gardens.
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West End Location.
£184,950 C69

Cwrt Syr Dafydd, Llantwit Major
4 Beds. 2 Recps. Cons.
Driveway. Garage.
Rarely Available.
£299,950 D65

Attention Landlords!
You need to comply with the law by November 23
If you're unsure about Rent Smart Wales and how it will affect you please call Dawn our fully qualified ARLA manager who will guide you through your options.
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Call Dawn today to book a free rental valuation
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Call Sally today to book a viewing
01446 791965
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• Five bedrooms
• Under floor heating
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£650,000

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• Large detached property
• 4 bedrooms • 3 reception rooms
• Double garage with workshop
£560,000

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SOLD

• Detached character cottage
• 4 bedrooms
• Original features • Large gardens
£465,000

ST NICHOLAS

• New build bungalow
• Standing in 1.07 acres
• 4 bedrooms • Sought after village
£749,950

RHOOSE

• 3 bedroom semi detached property
• Conservatory
• Garage • Private rear garden
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NEW PRICE

• Mid terrace property • NEW bathroom suite
• Located near Bridgend town centre
• Kitchen/Breakfast room?
£103,500

LALESTON

• Private parking • 3 bedrooms
• Modern interior
• Charm and character
£250,000

HENSOL

• Six bedroom • Period features
• Quality refurbishment
• Cowbridge catchment
£725,000

LLANTWIT MAJOR

• 4 bedroom cottage
• 3 reception rooms
• 2 garages • Annexe potential
£500,000

BARRY

• 5 bedroom property
• 3 reception rooms
• Double garage • Sea views
£435,000

PEN-Y-FAI

• Extended 4 bedroom property
• Secluded location • 1.1 acres in total
• Potential building plot
£560,000

COLWINSTON

• 5 bedroom detached property
• 3 reception rooms • Double garage
• South facing gardens
£625,000

BRIDGEND

• Bay fronted semi detached house
• 3 bedrooms • 2 reception rooms
• Extended and improved
£215,000

COWBRIDGE

• Private parking • Garage
• Level walking distance to Cowbridge town centre • 2 double bedrooms
£325,000

COWBRIDGE

• End of terrace property
• 4 bedrooms • Private parking
• Centre of Cowbridge
£440,000

WELSH ST DONATS
SSTC

• Large plot • Private parking
• 3 reception rooms
• 3 double bedrooms
£399,950

ST ATHAN
SSTC

• Private parking • Two bedrooms
• Part attic conversion
• End of terrace
£95,000

LLANTWIT MAJOR
SSTC

• Semi detached house
• Extended
• 3 bedrooms • 3 reception rooms
£215,000

COWBRIDGE
SSTC

• Detached property with garage
• 3 bedrooms • 2 reception rooms
• Close to amenities
£329,950

LLANMAES
SSTC

• Spacious detached property
• 4 bedrooms with potential to create a 5th
• 3 reception rooms • Conservatory
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TO LET

• Semi detached property
• 3 bedrooms
• Cul de sac position • NEW carpets
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Expressions of interest

homes4u HOTLINE 01446 700111

REDWOOD CLOSE, BOVERTON

Wales & West Housing, together with the Vale of Glamorgan announce the new development at Redwood Close, Boverton.

Expressions of interest are invited from Homes4U members.

A local lettings policy applies to this scheme.

The development will consist of:

- six, two-bedroom houses
  Rent £107.03 per week
- four, one-bedroom flats
  Rent £88.45 per week

Tai Wales & West Housing

VALE of GLAMORGAN BRO MORGANNWG

See our main advert for full details and more homes

THE WATERFRONT, BARRY — HFU Reference 136299

Hafod

Hafod Housing Association, together with The Vale of Glamorgan Council, announce the new development of ten homes at The Waterfront, Barry.

Bids are invited from Homes4U members with local work, family or life connections to Barry.

The development will consist of:

- ten, two-bedroom houses, suitable for up to three people
  Rent £96.87 per week, plus service charge to be confirmed.

Priority will be given to:

- applicants, including existing council and housing association tenants, in accommodation that is not affordable; or is unsuitable for their needs;
- applicants with a good tenancy history as references will be required;
- applicants with no previous convictions for anti-social behaviour or drug or alcohol-related issues.

To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or apply in writing to:
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Environment and Housing Civic Offices
Holton Road, Barry CF63 4RU

homes4u HOTLINE 01446 700111

To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or apply in writing to:
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Environment and Housing
Civic Offices, Holton Road
Barry CF63 4RU

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 19 OCTOBER 2016

All Homes4U properties have double glazing and central heating unless otherwise stated and will be allocated to the maximum occupancy.

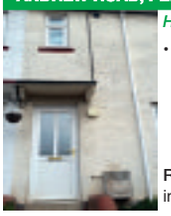
It may take longer to rehouse you if you are awarded medical priority as there is a shortage of accessible and adapted homes in the Vale.

ARTHUR DAVIS COURT

H4U reference 924488
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor (no lift)
- Independent living officer on site
- Gardens and parking

Rent £98.79 per week including water charge

ANDREW ROAD, PENARTH



H4U reference 251946
- Three bedroom house

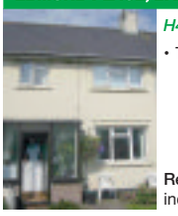
Rent £114.21 per week including water charge

BUTTLEE COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 110207
- Two-bedroom flat
- Ground floor

Rent £89.15 per week

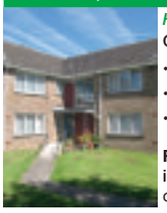
EDMUND PLACE, BARRY



H4U reference 208731
- Three-bedroom house

Rent £113.01 per week including water charge

FAIROAKS, DINAS POWYS



H4U reference 231130
Over 60
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Warden and alarm

Rent £115.15 per week including water and alarm charges

FFORD ELIN, BARRY

H4U reference 136225
- Three-bedroom house

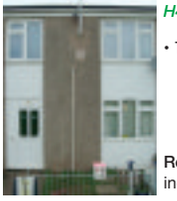
Rent £102.84 per week including service charges

HANOVER COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 120379
Over 55 (50 with medical need)
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Scheme manager

Rent £101.13 per week

HATHAWAY PLACE, BARRY



H4U reference 211556
- Three-bedroom house

Rent £115.01 per week including water charge

HERITAGE DRIVE, BARRY

H4U reference 690556
Suitable for mobility issues
- Two-bedroom house
- Level access shower (no bath)
- Stairlift and parking

Rent £93.63 per week including service charges

HYWEL CRESCENT, BARRY

H4U reference 212926
- Three-bedroom house

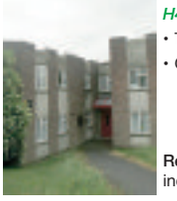
Rent £110.17 per week including water charge

JAMES STREET, BARRY

H4U reference 213322
Over 55
- One-bedroom bungalow
- Level access shower
- Community alarm
- Scaffold due to upgrade

Rent £106.11 per week inc water and alarm chgs

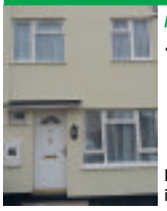
PENDINE CLOSE, BARRY



H4U reference 220064
- Two-bedroom flat
- Ground floor

Rent £105.63 per week including water charges

PENDINE CLOSE, BARRY



H4U reference 220272
- Three-bedroom house

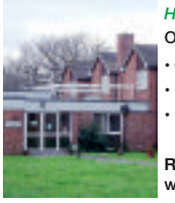
Rent £108.59 per week including water charges

REDLANDS AVENUE, PENARTH

H4U reference 243248
Over 55
- One-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Warden and alarm

Rent £104.21 per week inc water, warden and alarm charges

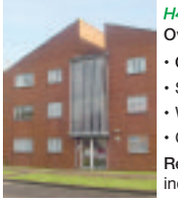
REDLANDS HOUSE, PENARTH



H4U reference 243810
Over 60
- One-bedroom flat (small)
- Ground floor
- Warden and alarm

Rent £120.64 pw inc water and warden chgs

SEVERN AVENUE, BARRY



H4U reference 222749
Over 55
- One-bedroom flat
- Second floor
- Water meter
- Community alarm

Rent £88.25 per week inc water and alarm chgs

ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH

H4U reference 245650
- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor

Rent £95.15 per week including water charges

ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH

H4U reference 245492
- Two-bedroom flat
- Second floor
- Water meter

Rent £83.60 per week

STEWART ROAD, RHOOSE

H4U reference 248004
- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor
- Water meter

Rent £84.28 per week

TY FFYNNON, BARRY

H4U reference 226721
- Two-bedroom flat
- First floor

Rent £92.42 per week including water charges

Vale of Glamorgan Council | Hafod Housing Association | Newydd Housing Association | United Welsh | Wales and West Housing Association

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of the rented homes.

When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference.

All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.

Visit the HOMES4U web page to view homes available now
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

No pets

Vale of Glamorgan Bro Morgannwg · Hafod · newydd · United Welsh · Wales & West Housing

DON'T DO IT YOURSELF...
....CALL A PROFESSIONAL FROM OUR A-Z LIST!

Advertisers please note : deadline for Classified Section is 5pm Monday (to appear in the following week's edition). Telephone 01446 774484. email: vanessa.james@tindlenews.co.uk

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AR
Dydd Mawrth 17 Ionawr 2017 am 10 a.m.
ER MWYN CYNNAL YMCHWILIAD LLEOL CYHOEDDUS AC WEDYN I BENDERFYNU AR:

GORCHYMYN DIWYGIO MAP DIFFINIOL (YCHWANEGU LLWYBR TROED CYHOEDDUS RHIF 72E, Y BARRI) CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG 2014

Effaith y Gorchymyn, os caiff ei gadarnhau fel y'i gwnaed, fydd addasu'r Map Diffiniol a'r Datganiad ar gyfer yr ardal trwy ychwanegu atynt y llwybr troed sy'n rhedeg o lwybr troed cyhoeddus 72e y tu cefn i 39 Porth y Castell, Y Barri, am tua 30 metr i'r gogledd-orllewin o'r fynedfa twnnel rheilffordd ar Gyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol 309855 166948, gan barhau i gyfeiriad y gogledd-ddwyrain gan ddilyn trac gydag arwyneb o bridd am 37 metr hyd at Gyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol 309879 166976; wedyn mae'r llwybr yn mabwysiadu aliniad de-ddwyreiniol gan barhau i lawr y rhiw am 107 metr hyd at leoliad blaenorol cyfres o risiau cyn ymuno â Heol Parc Romilly ar Gyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol 309960 166907; cyfanswm yr hyd yw 144 metr, a'r lled yw 1 metr.

Diben yr Ymchwiliad yw galluogi'r Arolygydd i glywed sylwadau gan y personau hynny sydd wedi gwrthwynebu'r Gorchymyn. Bydd unrhyw bersonau eraill â buddiant yn gallu bod yn bresennol a chaniateir iddynt siarad yn ôl disgresiwn yr Arolygydd.

Mae unrhyw berson sy'n dymuno gweld y datganiadau achos a dogfennau eraill yn ymwneud â'r Gorchmynion yn gallu gwneud hynny drwy apwyntiad yn Swyddfeydd Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Swyddfa'r Doc, Dociau'r Barri, Y Barri CF63 4RT - cysylltwch â Gwyn Teague ar 01446 704810 neu anfonwch neges e-bost at gwteague@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Isabel Nethell

Awdurdodwyd gan Weinidogion Cymru

RYDYM YN CROESAWU GOHEBIAETH YN GYMRAEG A SAESNEG

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT
AN INSPECTOR APPOINTED BY
the Welsh Ministers
WILL ATTEND AT
The Boardroom, Docks Office, Barry Docks, Barry CF63 4RT
AR
Tuesday 17th January 2017 at 10 a.m.
TO HOLD A PUBLIC LOCAL INQUIRY AND TO SUBSEQUENTLY DETERMINE:

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL – (ADDITION OF PUBLIC FOOTPATH NO. 72F, BARRY) – DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2014

The effect of the Order, if confirmed as made, will modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding to them the footpath running from public footpath 72e at the rear of 39 Porth y Castell, Barry, approximately 30 metres north west of the rail tunnel entrance at NGR 309855 166948, continuing in a north easterly direction following a track with an earth surface for 37 metres to NGR 309879 166976; the path then adopts a south easterly alignment continuing downhill for 107 metres to the previous location of a set of steps before joining Romilly Park Road at NGR 309960 166907; total length 144 metres, width 1 metre.

The purpose of the Inquiry is to enable the Inspector to hear representation from those persons who have objected to the Order. Any other interested persons may also attend and be allowed to speak at the discretion of the Inspector.

Any person wishing to view the statements of case and other documents relating to the Orders may do so by appointment at the Vale of Glamorgan Council Offices, Dock Office, Barry Docks, Barry CF63 4RT - Contact Gwyn Teague on 01446 704810 or email gwteague@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

Isabel Nethell

Authorised by the Welsh Ministers

WE WELCOME COMMUNICATIONS IN WELSH AND ENGLISH

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE
LICENSING ACT 2003
Section 17 (5)
Application for a Premises Licence
NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT
An application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a **PREMISES LICENCE**
To permit licensable activities which it is proposed will be carried on, on or from the premises shown below.
Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of: Monday to Thursday 0830 to 1700 hours and Friday 0830 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: www.bridgend.gov.uk.
Any responsible authority or any other person may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below:-
Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.
NAME OF APPLICANT:
Maesteg Celtic Athletic & Social Club
NAME AND POSTAL ADDRESS OF THE PREMISES:
Maesteg Celtic Athletic & Social Club, Bridgend Road, Garth, Maesteg, CF34 0NE
STATEMENT OF INTENDED LICENSABLE ACTIVITIES: (1)
Supply of alcohol and regular entertainment Mon to Sun 11:00 to 24:00. New Years Eve 11:00 to 00:30.
DATE BY WHICH REPRESENTATIONS MUST BE MADE:
This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely 11th October 2016, for 28 consecutive days.
It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.

Family Notices

JONES
Glynne John

Peacefully at Llandough Hospital on October 7, Glynne, aged 92 years. Beloved husband of Mary, much loved dad of Alan, Hilary and the late Lesley, and father-in-law of Rachel and Philip. Cherished grandad of Rebecca, Owen, Elizabeth, Helen and Bronwen and great grandchildren Lucia, Joshua, Grace, Emily, Thomas, Daniel, William and Sophie.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son until the funeral service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium on Friday, October 21 at 3pm. Family flowers only, donations in lieu, if so desired, for Marie Curie c/o the Funeral Director.

MATHESON
Gordon Christopher

Suddenly on September 21 at his home in Llantwit Major, Gordon, dearly loved husband of Tracey, devoted dad of Kieran and Kirsty.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Friday, October 21, service 2pm at St. Illtuds Church, Llantwit Major, followed by interment in Llantwit Major Cemetery. No flowers by request, donations in lieu, if desired, to British Heart Foundation, c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

TREHARNE
Arthur

Peacefully at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital on Thursday, September 22, Arthur of Cowbridge Road, Pontyclun, will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at Pontyclun Funeral Services Private Chapel of Rest until the funeral on Monday, October 17, service at St Anne's Church, Talygarn at 11am, followed by private internment at Ystradowen Church. Family flowers by request. Donations in memory of Arthur may be sent for, Smile Train c/o Pontyclun Funeral Services, Clun Avenue, Pontyclun, CF72 9AG. Tel 01443 224358.

FORDER
Brian

Peacefully on October 4 at Morriston Hospital, Brian of Llantwit Major, dear husband of Helen.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Wednesday, October 19, service and cremation 2.45pm at Coychurch Crematorium Bridgend. Family flowers only may be sent to the Funeral Home, donations in lieu, if desired, to Ward C, ABMU, Morriston Hospital c/o J James, 11 Fonmon Road, Rhoose, Vale of Glamorgan, CF62 3DZ.

FOWLER
William Leslie

Passed away peacefully in his sleep at the University Hospital of Wales on October 6, aged 78 years. Beloved husband of the late Elaine. Much loved father of Edward, Helene, Martin, Stephen and their partners Hillary, Nick, Ange and Donna. Cherished grandfather to Chelsea, Christopher, Nathan, Nicole, Sophie and great grandfather to Caelan.

Bill will be dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

His service and committal will be held at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry on Wednesday, October 19 at 2pm. Family flowers only, donations, if desired, can be made to support Marie Curie Hospice. Resting at The Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry.

Further enquiries contact Lyndsay Ellis on 01446 407962.

COX
Jason

Jason sadly passed away on September 28. Loving husband of Carina, adored father of Morgan, Kane and Lacey, best friend to Damian and much loved son and nephew.

Jason will be sadly and greatly missed by all family and friends.

A service of celebration will be held on Thursday, October 20 at 2pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, Port Road East, Barry, CF62 9PX. Flowers may be sent to Green Willow Funerals, 21A Station Road, Dinas Powys, CF64 4DE.

Any enquiries to Green Willow Funerals. Tel: (029) 2051 4627.

ELLIS
Evelyn May

Peacefully in her sleep at Collegefields Nursing Home, Barry, Evelyn May, aged 98 years, previously of Wenvoe Terrace, Barry. Beloved wife of the late Cyril. Dearly loved mother of Haydn and the late Graham, mother-in-law of Patricia and Jean. Cherished grandmother of Stephen, Jayne and the late Sara, great grandmother of Ceri-Marie and Jessie.

Evelyn will be sadly missed by all of her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams & Son Funeral Home, Gladstone Road, Barry, where flowers may be sent until the funeral on Wednesday, October 19.

Funeral service at Princes Street Evangelical Church, Princes Street, Barry, at 1.45pm, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Acknowledgements

PEMBRIDGE
Violet

Brian and Jackie wish to thank family and friends for their kind support, cards and donations. Also, thank you to Marie Curie Hospice, Penarth.

Also, many thanks to W James & Sons, Funeral Directors and Reverend Melanie Prince.

GATT
Carolyn Jane

The family of the late Carolyn Jane would like to thank everyone who attended her funeral on Monday, October 3. They are very thankful for your kind words, support and donations in lieu of flowers. Thank you to Father Kevin Lake for a lovely heartfelt service. A special thank you to all the staff at Holme Tower for the care Carolyn and the family received and thank you to Park Funeral Directors.

Carolyn will be sadly missed by all who knew her.

In Memory

IN MEMORY
Ronnie Williams

16 October 2015

It's been a year since you passed away,
Your're always in our hearts and thoughts.
Love and miss you
Winnie and family xxx

DAD
(Ronnie Williams)

16 October 2015

Its been a year since you passed away,
We miss you each and every day.
Love Deb, Tony & family xxx
Joanne, Leonard & family xxx

Anniversary

Anita and Howard Llewellyn

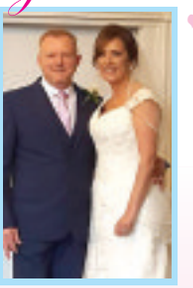
Happy Diamond Wedding Anniversary!

On 13 October

With lots of love
Christine, Carol, Martin, Andrew and Siobhan
xxx

Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations



WENDY SHORT
&
MARK SNATCHFOLD

who were married on Saturday, October 8 at the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge.

Wishing you both every happiness for your future together. Love and best wishes from all your friends at The GEM.
xxx

Birthdays

Happy 1st Birthday
To our Darling Great Grandaughter
Isabelle Ball
on 13 October
All our Love Always
Grandma & Gramps
xxx

Happy 16th Birthday to our Gorgeous Grandaughter

16

Georgia Lees

on October 14th

All our love
Nanny, Grampy and Uncle Justin
xx

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Closing date 21 October, 2016

Pugh's Garden Village, Wenvoe

- **Father Christmas and elves wanted!** (DBS - is essential for Father Christmas)
- Seasonal/Christmas staff required for photo desk
- CV required • Start date 25th Nov - 24th Dec
- Number of hours to be arranged

Please send CV to Cindy Bullock/Louise Jones, Pugh's Garden Village, Port Road, Wenvoe, CF5 6AD or email shop@stylegardens.co.uk - Tel 029 2059 8118

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Closing date for applications 21 October.

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We need fit reliable people to help distribute the **Glamorgan GEM** newspaper to local homes, once a week.

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On and Off The Turf

WITH BRIAN LEE

EVERY year, tens of thousands of racegoers cram themselves into Cheltenham Racecourse, the spiritual home of steeplechasing, for the annual week-long festival and culminating in the Gold Cup.

But who would have thought this seemingly-innocent gathering could set the stage for an intense and blistering attempt to outsmart a fierce cyber criminal?

Well, in Harriet Redfern's novels, anything is possible!

This is exactly what plays out in *Tabikat*; as the world of horse racing is turned on its head and the serenity of a Somerset racing yard becomes the playground for a whip-snapping adventure.

Tabikat is a talented racehorse, bred in rural Ireland by Eoghan Foley, a former jump jockey with a dramatic past.

This thriller, set in the horse-racing world, tells the story of the fight back against an organised crime family by Tabikat's connections.

The main action moves between Sampfield Grange, a point-to-point training yard in Somerset; Frossiac, a village on the Canal du Midi in Aude, France; Gleannglas, a small town in County Kerry, Ireland; and the famed Cheltenham Racecourse in Gloucestershire.

Tabikat holds an entry in the Gold Cup and is unexpectedly sent from a top Irish yard to reclusive English trainer James Sampfield Peveril, known to the racing world as Sam.

Sam is visited by an old friend, Frank Stanley, who asks him to take on a mysterious new employee, Isabella Hall.

The staff at the yard suspect that Isabella is not what she seems, and are determined to uncover her secret.

Kye McMahon, Sam's stable groom, fears Isabella will expose his activities as a drug dealer, while household staff Kelly and Lewis believe Isabella to be having an affair with Frank Stanley.

Sadie Shinkins, the yard manager is preoccupied with her affair with Merlin ap Rhys, Tabikat's jockey, as the two of them help Sam to prepare Tabikat for the race of his life.

Meanwhile, a mysterious English visitor to a remote French village is writing a novel about a murder at a deserted airfield committed by the head of an organised crime family.

The connection between the author George Harvey, Isabella Hall and the racehorse Tabikat gradually emerges as Sam desperately tries to understand the true nature of what Frank Stanley has really asked of him.

Peopled by colourful characters, both good and bad, from the racing world, the story reaches its climax as the Cheltenham Gold Cup is run.

The book will appeal to anyone who enjoys a gradually unfolding thriller set in the exciting world of horse racing and it can be obtained, either on Kindle or in paperback using this link: https://www.feedaread.com/books/Tabikat-9781786973.aspx.

THELIGNY WINS

TheLigny, a winner for Aberthin's Tim Vaughan last month, kept up the good work by scoring again at Huntingdon on Tuesday.

Partnered by champion jockey Richard Johnson, the promising five-year-old landed the Molson Coors Novices' Hurdle race by two lengths from My Mo and went off the 4-6 favourite.

Golf day in aid of the Cerys Potter Foundation

SATURDAY, October 8, saw the fifth annual Llancarfan Charity Golf Day in aid of the Cerys Potter Foundation which was held at Cottrell Park Golf Club.

Eighteen golfers of differing standards came together in a Texas Scramble format to see who would be champions and hold the bragging rights for the remaining 12 months.

There were a number of competitions throughout the day; Marilyn Barrett won the nearest the pin on the eighth hole narrowly edging out Paul Murphy.

John Ford was victorious in the longest drive, with a stunning shot that pitched past his nearest rival's ball – again Paul Murphy.

Max Evans correctly guessed the number of balls lost on the day – 30 in all!

Simon Cox the professional at Cottrell Park Golf Club kindly donated a free lesson that was raffled and raised £150

The winning four ball were the team that consisted of Paul Murphy (finally he won something!), Nick Crane, Bobby D and Janey Williams.

It was a very close fought match with all five teams within four points of each other, congratulations to the winning team.

The teams retired to the Fox & Hounds where James and his team fed the teams with a slap-up pie & mash supper.

We'd like to thank the organisers – Matt, Rich and John, to James at the Fox & Hounds for hosting us and also to Cottrell Park for organising a fantastic event that brought together members of the community and raise over £350 for a charity that is very close to our hearts. **JF**

PENARTH HOCKEY CLUB ROUND-UP

PENARTH Hockey Club's first XI were made to work hard for a share of the spoils in a top-of-the-table clash with Swindon, allowing the seconds to bask in the glory of an 8-0 thrashing of local rivals Whitchurch in week two of the new GoCrea8 league campaign.

From the start, Swindon proved to be a very solid team with no weak links for Penarth to expose.

The match was played at a frantic tempo with the visitors flying out of the blocks and, even though Penarth gradually managed to wrest control after the opening exchanges, it was Swindon that broke the deadlock, with a reverse stick cross finding an unmarked attacker at the back post to give them the lead midway through the first half.

Penarth refused to let their heads drop, however, and continued to press for a goal of their own. While their efforts were to no avail before the half-time whistle, the Bears came out strong after the break and, once again, their tough pre-season preparation paid off as they looked the fresher team pushing forward.

The Vale side had a gilt-edge chance to equalise from the penalty spot after a Ben Croxall shot was illegally stopped on the goal line but, despite David Joyce sending the Swindon keeper the wrong way, his effort was somehow clawed off the line by the netminder's flailing stick.

Again, Penarth refused to let the setback deflate them, knowing that, as their pressure mounted, it would only be a matter of time before they'd get the chance to level the scores.

Sure enough, the opportunity arose via another penalty flick after Swindon again illegally prevented a shot from crossing the line and, this time, Croxall stepped up and made no mistake from the spot.

Penarth could now sense victory and went for the jugular but, attacking with reckless abandon, left themselves open at the back, allowing Swindon to strike on the counter-attack, with an excellent reverse stick shot regaining the lead for the visitors.

With little time remaining, Penarth threw caution to the wind and went all-out in attack in an effort to rescue something from the game. With just minutes on the clock, captain Tom Haran sent a long pass up the right wing, allowing Chris Baker to leave his marker for dead before driving into the D and smashing the ball into the bottom corner with unerring accuracy and composure.

The Bears almost snatched all three points' right at the death, as Joyce shot narrowly wide, but it was not the Vale side's finest performance, at times panicking when they fell behind, and it took all the spirit and fight that took them to a division title last season to come away with a share of the spoils.

WHITCHURCH C 0, PENARTH A 8

After a disappointing defeat on the opening weekend of the season, Penarth's second XI looked to get their first points on the board in De Cymru 1 with an away game against Whitchurch 'C', and it was a strong side – complete with a couple of summer signings - that made the trip knowing that nothing short of victory would suffice.

Penarth started well and dominated from the off, with Sam Docherty orchestrating from central midfield. Unsurprisingly, it did not take long for the pressure on the pitch to transfer to the scoreboard with Phil Lane converting an early penalty corner.

Penarth soon doubled their lead when Dave Kidby tapped home at the back post, while further strikes from Steve Davies - with his first touch of the game - and Lane, with a sweet strike from the top of the D, made it 4-0 within 20 minutes.

Whitchurch looked shell-shocked but Penarth were playing excellent hockey and maintained their momentum with captain Sam Chick grabbing a fifth before Davies added a sixth before half-time.

The Vale side looked to keep up the intensity after the interval, but Whitchurch came out for the second half much more organised and enjoyed a spell of possession that led to a series of penalty short corners.

During this period of play, however, a goalmouth scramble escalated into an altercation between Penarth goalkeeper Simon Comfort and one of the Whitchurch players, which saw Comfort receive a yellow card and time in the sin bin while his adversary was shown a straight red for violent conduct.

With no keeper for 10 minutes, Mark Thomas bravely offered to stand in as 'kicking back' only to find that his first duty was to face down another Whitchurch penalty corner.

Defiantly, Thomas proceeded to charge the corner down, blocking the shot which nicely cushioned the ball to Chick to start a Penarth breakaway.

Chick duly took the ball upfield before slipping a pass to Chris McCarthy, who completed a hat-trick of assists by unselfishly squaring to Kidby for another tap-in.

With Penarth a man up for the majority of the second half, Whitchurch might have capitulated but, to their credit, they worked tirelessly to frustrate the Bears and limited the visiting side to just one further score, with Sam Salisbury continuing his strong start to the season by adding an eighth late on.

SWANSEA UNIVERSITY C 1, PENARTH B 0

The third XI travelled to Swansea to take on the local university's C team in their first De Cymru 3 league match of the season and what was expected to be one of the hardest matches of the campaign turned out to be just that.

The students dominated most of the possession in the first half, but failed to create many clear-cut chances due to a solid and well-organised defensive display by the Penarth back four of James Davies, Simon Wilkinson, Morgan Salisbury and Rob Harrison.

As the half wore on, Penarth slowly got themselves back into the game and created a couple of good chances through quick breaks, although these were unfortunately wasted by the forwards.

Despite that, Penarth went into the break in the ascendancy and confident that they could get something out of the game, but the second half started the same way as the first, with the university side controlling most of the pitch.

Once again, however, the Penarth defence thwarted what chances were created and, even when the students did find a way through, some good saves by goalkeeper Mark Harris meant that there was no score going into the final quarter.

As they had in the first period, Penarth started to get more of the possession as the half wore on, and again created two or three good opportunities only to see them go begging.

Good use of rolling substitutions by the Bears meant that they matched the youth and fitness of the students, with Tom Griffiths working tirelessly in the midfield on his third XI debut.

The resistance could not last, however, and the university gradually began to play more and more of the game in the Penarth half.

The home side continued to waste the opportunity to put then game away.

With little over five minutes remaining, the Bears looked like they were going to hang on for a draw, only for a late effort from the students to take a deflection in the D before being diverted into his own net by the hapless Paul Thomas. Penarth mounted a late challenge for a share of the points, but the university held on to keep the scoreline at 1-0. **CL**

Vale United make it eight wins on the bounce against Dinas

DINAS POWYS were the latest team to fall victim to the Vale United juggernaut, as they were soundly beaten by the league leaders at Brig y Don.

Coming into the game on the back of a 6-2 victory in the cup last week, United made key changes in order to keep players fresh heading into the long winter slog.

Out went skipper Richard Evans, with the effervescent Thomas Hopkin slotting in at right-back, while the midfield trio of Dan Hanson, Phil Caseley and Matt Hobbs were all reinstated to the starting 11 after being rested against Barry Saints.

The impressive strike force of Jay Tominey, Alex Gregory and Nathan Jenkins were once again given chance to impress after last weekend's rout.

After the game finally got underway, it didn't take long for Vale to hit their stride, the busy Jay Tominey flicking in a delightful header from dead-ball specialist, Matt Hobbs, to give the visitors a deserved 0-1 lead.

Vale's attacking threat was clear to see, with Nathan Jenkins next to test the home-team, shooting straight at the keeper when it seemed easier to score.

It was one-way traffic up until this point, although Dinas did threaten once on the break, forcing stand-in skipper, Gerwyn Teague into an important, if routine, save, to keep the score at 0-1.

Minutes later, it was 0-2 - a training ground corner routine saw Tominey pick out Gregory on the edge of the box, the in-form winger lashing home a first-time half-volley to give the scoreline the look that United's dominance deserved.

The half continued in much the same fashion, United squandering chances galore, through a mixture of rank-bad finishing and inspired goalkeeping from the home team's giant stopper.

Vale came into the second half looking to build on their impressive first half, though a tactical change by Dinas saw them able to stifle the regularity of the Vale attacks, though when they did beat the back-line, it was once again bad finishing that kept the scoreline at 0-2.

Dinas very rarely threatened the Vale backline which was once again marshalled superbly Steve Harris and Joe Williams, with James Davies and Thomas Hopkin proving a real attacking threat from full-back, while also remembering their defensive duties.

As the game wore on, more chances came and went for the unusually profligate visitors, as they missed chance after chance to put the game to bed and improve their already healthy goal difference.

As it was, the half-time scoreline was also the full-time score line, the 2-0 victory stretching their winning run to an impressive eight games. **GT**

Half marathon, full effort

PHOTOGRAPHS by GLYN EVANS

OTHER PICTURES ARE AVAILABLE FROM THIS EVENT.

Pictures can be purchased by contacting:

E-Mail: ffotoimage@tiscali.co.uk
Telephone 07791 228684
www.ffotoimage.co.uk

THEY came from near and went far – 13.1 miles to be precise – around Cardiff for 2016's half-marathon, which took place on October 2.

Billed as 'flat, fast and iconic', the half-marathon took in some of the Welsh capital's best-known areas, such as Roath and Pontcanna, and, naturally, Cardiff Bay. Roll on 2017!

Llantwit Major RFC progress in the Bowl

THE third round of the cup competition brought familiar visitors Canton RFC to the Recreation Ground.

Llantwit were expecting a tough encounter which didn't materialise as they cantered to a 45-3 win. This was partly due to a very good performance from the home team and also Canton's decision to field a development XV consisting of a mixture of first and second XV players.

The game was all about the first half as Llantwit racked up 38 points with only an early penalty in reply by Canton.

The forwards set the platform as yet again they dominated a much bigger pack in the scrum with a strong performance, putting Canton under early pressure which they never really recovered from. An early Dan Powell penalty was just reward for the good start and big tackles being put in across the field.

Next saw the highlight of the game as man of the match fullback Wise Vakacegu took a pass inside the Llantwit half and make an audacious shimmy and dummy pass which left not only the opponents but most of the crowd flummoxed as to what was happening.

By the time they had caught up, Wise had already split the Canton defence apart and broken away, good handling and support from his fellow backs putting Jack Austin over at the clubhouse end for a converted try.

This was soon followed by a second try, again coming from some excellent back play and quick passing putting strong running wing Luke Dawes over under the posts.

There was no doubt by this time that Llantwit were going to be too strong for their opponents as they were dominating all set pieces, particularly the scrum, confirmed with a well-organised pushover try being grounded by number eight Rob Carter.

It was then the turn of the backs as wing Rhys Balmont showed his pace in racing over from another move started from inside their own half. The first half ended with Steff Godwin capping a solid performance at scrum half by diving over from some more forward pressure.

The second half began as the first half ended with Llantwit quickly crossing the whitewash at the school end with a Gareth Watts try and a touchline conversion from the ever-dependable Powell who contributed 13 points from his accurate kicking.

The rest of the half sadly did not live up to the start as the game saw no further score as Canton, to their credit, stubbornly refused to lie down and defended strongly and threw everything they had at the home team.

The Llantwit coaching team also took advantage of the big lead to make several changes and give some fringe players a good run out. The game though was still entertaining with plenty of open rugby from both sides and a sin-binning each to contend with.

Another pleasing aspect for the coaches was Llantwit's defence in not conceding any points when down to 14 men and for the second game running, not conceding any tries.

Hopefully, this will be good preparation for this week's game as they take the long trip up the A470 to Merthyr Tydfil as Cefn Coed RFC are the opponents, kick-off 2.30pm.

The game will provide a stern test of Llantwit's early season form as they face the unbeaten league leaders; any supporters are welcome to travel on the team bus leaving at 12 noon.

A final note to make is, disappointingly, there has again been an increase in dog muck being found on the Recreation Ground. This is unacceptable as the health of players and children is at risk.

Dog mess is not only unsightly and unpleasant but can spread disease, or in extreme cases, cause blindness. The rugby club is appealing to dog owners who allow this practice to stop before any harm is caused.

AH

Barry Town reach quarter-finals after giant killing!

UNDERDOGS Barry Town United booked their place in the quarter-finals of the Nathaniel MG Cup with an impressive 1-0 win over Welsh Premier League opposition on Tuesday, October 4.

After Town striker James Dixon had been bundled over in the box, Bobby Briers' 67th-minute spot kick proved enough to see off Cardiff Met at a floodlit Jenner Park, watched by a crowd of around 300 spectators.

The Archers had been awarded a penalty of their own within moments of Barry's opener, only for goalkeeper Mike Lewis to pull out a crucial save, preserving the home side's slender advantage.

Barry's best chance in open play came when Dixon struck the crossbar before the break, and while the Met enjoyed their fair share of possession over the course of the 90 minutes, the visitors were unable to break down a resolute Town defence, inspired by returning man of the match Lewis Cosslett.

This was Barry's first competitive victory over Welsh Premier League adversaries for more than 12 years and their first home win in the newly-expanded competition since September 2001.

Barry will now host fellow Welsh League outfit Haverfordwest County in the quarter-finals, as Gavin Chesterfield's squad continue their pursuit for senior silverware on four separate fronts.

The tie between Barry and Haverfordwest will be played at Jenner Park on Tuesday, October 25 (7.45pm), with the winners set to be handed a semi-final showdown on neutral ground with either Carmarthen Town or Newtown.

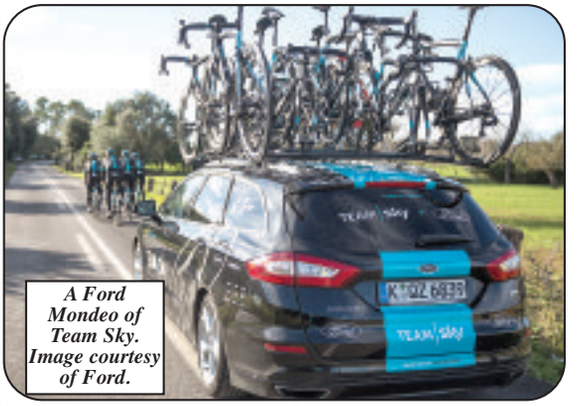
The northern section of the quarter-final draw, meanwhile, pits Connah's Quay against Rhyl and Bangor City against holders The New Saints.

Barry return to Welsh League Division One action this weekend, away at Goytre AFC in Gwent (2.30pm).

Barry Town: Mike Lewis, Bobby Briers, Luke Cooper, Lewis Cosslett, Chris Hugh, James Saddler (c), Louis Gerrard, Jordan Cotterill, Tyrell Webbe, James Dixon, Michael Hartley. Substitutes: Nathan Mathias, Lee Baldock, Dan Bradley, TJ Nagi (for Cotterill), Kareem Leigh (for Dixon).

AC

Team Sky and Tour de Ford motor into Bridgend county



A Ford Mondeo of Team Sky. Image courtesy of Ford.

CYCLISTS in south Wales are invited to get a taste of the pro cycling experience at a Tour de Ford-led ride, in association with Team Sky, at Bridgend Ford, Waterton Industrial Estate, Bridgend, on Sunday, October 16.

Ford, which is Team Sky's exclusive supplier of cars and vans, is hosting Tour de Ford events around the country.

The free group cycle rides will be accompanied by Team Sky-liveried Ford Mondeo estate cars – the same vehicles used to support 2016 Tour de France-winning team.

The route, of around 50 miles, in the south Wales countryside will start and finish at Bridgend Ford.

The non-competitive rides will follow a route plotted on Strava, the social network for athletes.

Lisa Brankin, director of marketing, Ford of Britain, said: "Our Tour de Ford rides, in association with Team Sky, are a great way for cyclists to get a feel for the Team Sky experience on their own local roads. "We want to offer an enjoyable and different day's riding for local cyclists and hope riders will join us on the inaugural Tour de Ford events."

The Tour de Ford celebrates Ford's partnership with Team Sky. The partnership agreement affords Team Sky access to a range of Ford vehicles to provide specific support for all key areas of the Team Sky racing and non-racing programme.

Liveried in the distinctive blue and black Team Sky colours, the most visible cars in the peloton are the Ford Mondeo estates used by the team's crew.

Cyclists wanting more information or to take part in Tour de Ford, please visit

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tour-de-ford-bridgend-ford-registration-27752542602

Under-9s are left tired but happy!

SATURDAY saw the three Llantwit Major under-9 teams in action in glorious sunshine with the Lions and Saints at home against Sully, and the Dragons away at Wenvoe against Barry Town Yellows.

Having had a few players pull out after failing late fitness tests, the teams were a bit stretched so meant some very tired legs at the end.

All games were close once again but extremely competitive.

The Dragons' player of the week award was a difficult choice again with a couple of players putting in fine performances However, it was decided to award it to one of their goalscorers, Dylan Godsell, who put in a massive shift helping all over the park with some fine passing and skills whilst also doing the dirty work with covering tackles.

Bleddyn Mitchem won the award for the Lions with another sterling performance terrorising the defences with his runs and long throw-ins.

The Saints' award went to Ethan Bacon, who is a very consistent player and once again put in a great all round performance.

This week sees the three sides at home entertaining Barry Town Blues and Holton Road.

IG

Brynhill Golf Club ladies' results

SEPTEMBER 6, Texas scramble competition:

Winners Gemma Evans, Linda Hewlett, Andrea Page and Norma Philips = 62.4 nett.

September 20, four club competition: Winner Gemma Evans over the back nine from Jenny Pateman = 32 pts.

September 27, Consolation trophy: Winner Linda Hewlett =30 pts. Breakthrough brooch competition: WinnerAndrea Page =36pts.

Welsh dragon brooch competition: Winner Robbie Lee = 76 nett.

Brynhill Golf Club Christmas fayre takes place on November 1, 6pm-9pm, and Brynhill Golf Club ladies section's annual general meeting takes place on November 22 at 7pm.

JK

Barry and District Ladies Skittle League results

LATEST results for the Barry and District Ladies Skittle League for week commencing September 29:

Division 1: SV Gals (V Pycroft 30) 286, Red Admiral (M Gee 29) 260; Pila Palas (D Sullivan, M Jones 32) 331, Bakers Dozen (S Davis 35) 296; Special Angels (K Hillberg, D Grisdale 22) 193, Family and Friends (J Phillips 29) 244; Barry Stars (C Bishop, S Phillips 32) 315, Space Finders (E Worthy 38) 324; Coppers (J Williams 34) 321, Family Affair (Sandra Wilson 36) 325; Colcot Ladies (K Taylor, P Jackson 27) 221, Bobby's Girls (L Evans 28) 223; Allsorts (D Booneley 28) 231, Cigar Ladies (F Simmond 28) 246.

Division 2: Castle Bandits (C Kerslake 27) 245, Breakaways (C Parfitt, V Martin 26) 239; Rhoose Starlights (G Oliver 27) 256, Fallen Angels (T Lawrence, S Jones 26) 279; Airways Angels (J Naish, J Thomas, B Collins, A Crock 23) 239, Castaways (K Billings 31) 234; Merry Makers (H Davies 26) 236, SV Lights (N Alsop 27) 200.

Division 3: Little Devils (P Weston 25) 211, Hill Billies (S Aspinall 26) 239; Vixens (K Thomas 34) 271, Rugby Triers (J Gouch 25) 24; Westenders (S Morgan, C Gee 26) 219, Rebels (S Collier, S Oram 25) 233; Challengers (D Collard 33) 293, La Belles (J Cordy 36) 317; Uptown Girls (L Cosslett 21) 214, Witches (V Walters 22) 219; S V Ladies (W Norman 29) 275, Dolly Mixtures (K Rideout 29) 302; Twilights (C Thomas 24) 213, Etcetera (M Grasby 22) 175.

Division 4: Nite Outers (G Baker 28) 189, Persuaders (J Neil 25) 220; Optimists (E Playe, J Holland 29) 266, Off The Rails (J Sims 29) 256; Boozy Birds (C Connell, J Mills 3) 301, Witchill Wanderers (V Kerslake 35)247; Socialites (R Hooper 28) 249, Hell Raisers (L Waters 28) 248.

Next secretary's meeting – December 12. Please bring raffle tickets and prizes.

Tennis club record their first win!

AFTER rain delayed the start of Llantwit Major Tennis Club's resurgence into competitive tennis, last weekend LMTC visited Garw Valley TC to play their first match in over 10 years and also recorded their first win!

Acting team captain Roger Williams travelled to face their opponents in the Valleys alongside Dawn Howels, Vicki Seaton and Neil Davies.

The match was an incredibly close affair with the final result being decided by a single set.

The first round of matches saw LMTC first pair Vicki and Neil play their opposite number in what turned out to be the match that decided the tie. Garw Valley edged the match winning in a third set tiebreak 3-6, 6-4, 10-8.

Second pair Dawn and Roger also had a close but successful first match against their opposite number winning in straight sets 7-6, 6-3.

Confidence was clearly high for the Garw Valley first pair as they cruised to a more comfortable victory of 6-3, 6-2 over Dawn and Roger. Llantwit first pair Vicki and Neil took the final rubber in another close straight sets win 6-4, 6-4 which also sealed the overall win in the tie thanks to that crucial set in the first round.

Pictured are last weekend's team (from right to left): Dawn Howels, Neil Davies, Roger Williams and Vicki Seaton.

This Saturday at 1.30pm LMTC will face Barry Community Tennis Club which was the match that was rescheduled due to rain in September.

During the match only one court will be available for the regular social tennis that takes place each week on a Saturday from 2pm.

Social tennis on a Friday from 5.30pm will continue each week until the clocks change.

The club welcomes any spectators for the match and also any new players looking to take up tennis.

If you are interested in joining or would like to find out more about our club, please visit our website – www.llantwittennis.co.uk or email info@llantwittennis.co.uk.

You can also find Llantwit Major Tennis Club on Facebook and Twitter.

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Golfers impress in trip to Bromsgrove

SUNDAY saw seven Special Olympics Wales golfers set off from their home club of St Andrews Major Golf Club for the Special Olympics West Midland golf tournament, to be held in Bromsgrove Golf Club the following day.

First to tee off were the 18 hole Division 1 players made up of our own Matthew Sims from Cardiff, Sam Lazenbury (Barry) and Matthew Prewett (Lavernock).

The competition was very close with Sam Lazenbury taking the title by one stoke with a round of 95, from second place Matthew Sims 96 and in third place Matthew Prewett.

Our next golfers were in the nine hole competition, Division 1, with another closely fought competition with only four strokes between the first and fifth places - James Savory was fourth, Mark Eveleigh sixth and Gareth Lloyd in seventh place, all three are from Barry.

Our final golfer was Adrian Abbott from Llantwit Major who took the gold medal place in nine hole Division 3 competition.

We now return to St Andrews Major Golf Club to prepare for our next competition under the watchful eye of golf professional John Hastings.

The golfers would like to take this opportunity to thank the members and staff of the St Andrews Major Golf Club for the warm welcome they receive at the club every week.

If anyone is interested in taking part as an athlete or volunteer, the sports we cover within Special Olympics Cardiff & Vale group are badminton, bocce, boccia, indoor bowls, golf, artistic gymnastics, sprint kayaking, 10-pin bowling and swimming - for more information please contact Jeff Savory via: specialolympicswales@gmail.com or 0780 316 5581.

Pictured, left to right, are: Matthew Prewett, Matthew Sims, James Savory, Mark Eveleigh, Adrian Abbott, Sam Lazenbury and Gareth Lloyd. **JS**

Vale Council support for sports clubs

ARE you part of a sports club within the Vale or an organisation which delivers, or would like to deliver, sport for local residents?

The Vale Council's sports development team are holding a community club open day/evening on Tuesday, October 18 to which representatives of your club are invited.

Members of the team will be at Barry YMCA Hub, Court Road, Barry, from 3pm to 8pm, during which time your representatives can speak to a member of the team.

The team are able to assist with a range of areas, including Community Chest applications – a grant scheme that awards financial support to organisations proposing ideas for getting people in the Vale of Glamorgan more active, more often – whose deadline is November 10.

Other areas of funding are also able to be discussed, as well as club-development planning and the development of additional opportunities. The development of school-club links can also be raised, as can coach development and volunteer recruitment.

Coun Gwyn John, cabinet member for visible, leisure and regulatory services, commented: "Our teams at sports development and play have a love of sport, and a passion for increasing the number of people taking part in sports and play opportunities across the Vale of Glamorgan."

The information drop-in session is open to all groups/organisations who wish to develop sporting activities.

Any interested groups should contact Rachel Shepherd, Sports Development, on 07730 749485m or by e-mailing rlshepherd@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.

VALE OF GLAMORGAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE ROUND-UP

ANOTHER excellent weekend in the Vale of Glamorgan league saw a mixture of nervy wins, upset wins and one crazy scoreline.

In the Premier Division Penarth Town produced an fine result to win 3-2 away to Barry Athletic.

St Athan also produced a great result on their travels, edging Rhoose 1-0.

The results keep the pressure on still-undefeated Vale United who made it eight wins out of eight in all competitions with a 2-0 victory away to Dinas Powys Athletic.

Island Marine notched their first win of the season with an impressive 5-1 league win over Masons Moving Group who find themselves bottom of the table.

In the First Division Barry Athletic B went back to the top with a mammoth 10-0 drubbing of bottom side Glen-brook.

FC Pumas got back to winning way after two draws, winning 6-1 against Cadoxton Barry to go second.

Cogan were victorious 3-1 against Dockers - that's two on the bounce in the league for the first division champions but Dockers are without a win in three.

Cadoxton Athletic came out 6-4 winners against Sully in an entertaining game in somewhat of an upset, an tremendous win for Athletic.

In Division Two an incredible 15 goals were scored in one game, in the battle of the Saints, Barry Saints won 10-5 away to St Athan B.

BVFC bounced back from a massive defeat in the cup last week to edge Penarth B 3-2, halting Towns run of four wins in a row.

Barry Albion had lost five in a row in the league but they battled to a 3-3 draw against Island Marine B, their indifferent form continuing.

Finally in the battle of the bottom two, Rhoose B and Pumas B, played out a 1-1 draw.

As of writing the results of Tynewydd vs Cowbridge and SP Billy vs Cardiff Airport were still unknown.

This week's picks of the day look like being Cowbridge vs Penarth in the Premier Division; in the First Division, in what could be the complete stand out, it's first vs second as Barry Athletic B play FC Pumas, and in the Second Division league leaders Cadoxton Imps are back in action in a tough test against Island Marine B. **HD**

Ed Meggitt (chairman of Lord's Taverners Welsh region; Jamie Sylvester (Macron Cardiff); Jane John (chairman of Lady Taverners Welsh region).

Taverners set their sights on taking cricket to all parts of the world

A LOCAL cricketing charity has thanked a Cardiff sports business for giving its recycling programme a big boost.

Thousands of youngsters from around the world benefit each year from the Lord's Taverners Sports Kit Recycling programme and thanks to a donation from Macron in Cardiff, the Taverners will be able to help many more young people around the globe.

The Cardiff sportswear store has donated four boxes of recycled sportswear to the Wales Lord's Taverners to used in projects across the world.

In the past 12 months, more than 5,500 pieces of kit donated by manufacturers, clubs and members of the public has helped young people around the world play cricket for the first time.

Along with supporting projects in countries such as India, Brazil, Gambia and Ghana, more recently youngsters closer to home have benefitted as refugees in Germany have been sent cricket kit as they look to continue their love of the sport developed in their home countries of Afghanistan and Pakistan.

In the past 12 months, the Lord's Taverners have donated hundreds of kilograms of kit to youngsters across the globe, including to: Cricket Brazil (310kg); Gambia Cricket Association (340kg); Mexico Cricket Association (305kg) and Rwanda Cricket Association (330kg).

How can you help? If you have any unwanted kit or equipment, or if your club is willing to become a collection hub, then the Lord's Taverners would like to hear from you. Your donations really do make a difference to young people's lives around the world.

For more information about how to donate unwanted kit, or how a club can become a collection hub, visit www.lordstaverners.org/sportskitrecycling.

Bridge results

RESULTS for the Vale of Glamorgan bridge club for October 10:

1st Alan Lewis & Terry Evans 63.07%, 2nd Steve Burgoyne & John Evans 62.22%, 3rd Vida Halford & Glyn Williams 59.09%.

LE

Go to **The GEM** for the latest stories and breaking news...

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www.llantwit-major-today.co.uk
www.bridgend-today.co.uk
www.porthcawl-today.co.uk

Jiu Jitsu club members represent Wales in Canada

TEN members of the Vale Jiu Jitsu Club based in St Brides Major represented Wales at Jitsu International 2016, held in Collingwood, Ontario, Canada this summer.

Jitsu International 2016 was attended by over 250 participants from ten different contries.

Despite being based in a small rural village, the Vale Jiu Jitsu Club has always punched well above its weight.

Over the last six years it has competed successfully against clubs based in some of the world's biggest cities, winning the team award at the British Junior Jiu Jitsu Foundation Randori Championships earlier this year and the Senior Display Competition at Jitsu International 2016, Ontario, Canada.

Jitsu International is held every three years and is the most prestigious competition held by the Jiu Jitsu Foundation International.

The Vale Jiu Jitsu Club will be defending its title in South Africa in 2019.

Pictured, above, are the senior team: *Top row, left to right – Liam Sloan, Tom MacArthur, Jake Walker, Toby Walker, Robert Murray, Angus Gregory, and the Junior team: Bottom row, left to right - Ellin May, Cerys May, Harriett Thomas, Miles Thomas.*

If you would like to find out more about the Vale Jiu Jitsu Club contact us at valejiujitsu@gmail.com . **DW**

Lifeguard Karen lands gold treble!

RHOOSE Lifeguard Karen O'Donoghue-Harris recently won three gold medals at the Masters World Surf Life Saving Championships.

The Championships were held in the small fishing town of Noordwijk, which sits on the North Sea in the Netherlands.

With tricky sea and wind conditions, Karen's first event was the board race where she got a bronze medal in her age group.

This was quickly followed by a gold medal in the Ski race and Ocean Woman, which is a multi-discipline event consisting of a run, swim, board and ski leg. The following day was all about team events and, together with her team mates, Karen took gold in the Ski Relay and bronze in the Beach Relay and Taplin Relay.

Karen said: "It's been a long season but all the hard work and training has certainly paid off and it's been worth all the effort." **GH**

Junior golfers in finals at Cottrell Park

SEVENTY FIVE young golfers between the ages of 6-14 took part in the finals of the 2016 Welsh Junior Tour, a suitable climax in a successful first year for the new event in the Welsh sporting calendar.

They qualified for the finals at Cottrell Park, the Welsh Golf Club of the Year for 2015, as a result of their performances at junior tour events over the course of the season.

The junior tour has been so successful this season that the Golf Union of Wales are already planning to extend the event next year.

In the under-10s section William Pontin for Rhondda carried the day with a great score of 61 points, just edging out junior tour regular Brodi Lewis from Pyle & Kenfig who was second with 60 points.

Michael Collis continued a great day for the Mold juniors with a third place finish. Zak Baker from Llandrindod Wells, Abergele's Jack McKinney and Bargoed's Ryan Williams have been battling it out all season in the under-12s age group.

On this occasion, Williams came in fourth having been pipped for third by Ralph O'Carroll from nearby St Athan Golf Club.

In the under-14 girls Megan Vineall from Newport continued her run of good form winning by two points from The Vale Resort's Darcey Harry with Kasumi Tran from Tenby in third place.

Barrivale Bridge Club **results**

RECENT results from Barrivale Bridge Club for October 4 were as follows:

First, Lyn Matthews and Alan Jones, 66.15 per cent; second, Mike Close and Mick Green, 59.38 per cent; third, Denis Mottram and Sean Macdougall, 55.73 per cent.

Lyn Matthews and Alan Jones also won on handicap.

New members are always welcome at Barrivale. A partner may be arranged if required. If you would like to join us, call 01446 418380, 01446 733425 or 01446 735592; call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry, on Tuesdays at 7pm. Alternatively, players – inexperienced or new – may attend on Fridays at 10am at the same address. ***DR***

Go to our dedicated sports page for the latest stories and breaking news... @sport_gem

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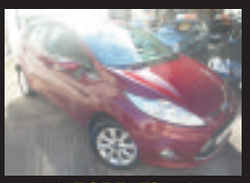

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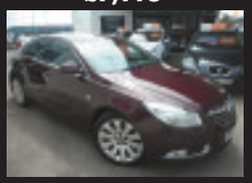

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56 **BMW 630i Sport Convertible Auto** In met silver with black leather, 74,000 miles **£10,695**

13 **RENAULT Grand Scenic D-Quettluxe NRG 1.6 Diesel 7 seater** In ice blue with leather trim, 56,000 miles .....**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £9,995**

13 **NISSAN Juke 1.6 N-TEC 5-Dr** In white, 26,000 miles with sat-nav, climate etc **£9,995**

06 **RANGE ROVER 3.0 Vogue Diesel Auto** In met-blue with grey leather, lots of extras **£9,995**

13 **HONDA Civic 1.8 V-TEC SE** In crystal black, 25,909 miles, one owner, superb value at **£8,995**

62 **VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 Diesel SE Nav Automatic** In very berry with black trim, 57,000 miles **£8,995**

12 **MINI Cooper 1.6** In white silver with black roof, 23,000 miles. Very nice example **£8,995**

14 **RENAULT Clio Dynamique MEDIA NAV ENERGY DCi 1.5** In Silver with Bluetooth, sat nav, alloys etc, free road tax, only 39,000 miles, 1 owner **£8,695**

13 **KIA CEED 2 1.6 CRDi Auto** In silver, 34,000 mile diesel hatch .....**REDUCED TO £8,695**

14 **VOLKSWAGON Polo 1.2 Match 5-Dr** In black, 25,000 miles, a/c alloys etc **£7,995**

12 **HYUNDAI i30 Active 1.6 Diesel CRD 5-Dr** In silver, 38,000 miles, stop/start etc **£7,995**

12 **SKODA Octavia Greenlane 1.6 TDi Estate** In metalic sand, 52,000 miles, 1 owner **£7,995**

61 **HONDA Crz Sport Hybrid** In met grey, 38,000 miles, sought after coupe at.....**£7,995**

11 **VAUXHALL Insignia 2.0 CDTi SRi Estate Automatic** In met grey, 58,000 miles, with sat-nav, alloys etc.....**£7,995**

10 **SKODA Yeti 1.2 TSi SE** In aqua blue, 46,000 miles, practical hatch **£7,995**

10 **AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sport 5-Dr** In black, 82,000 miles, £30 road tax, Fantastic value **£7,995**

09 **MAZDA MX5 1.8i Roadster Coupe** In true red, 48,000 miles, solid roof convertible **£7,995**

58 **MERCEDES CLC 200 CDi Diesel Coupe Automatic** In Silver, heated leather seats etc with only 53,000 miles **£7,995**

63 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 SE 5-Dr** In white, 29,000 miles, a/c alloys etc **£7,695**

62 **SUZUKI Swift Sport 1.6** In met-red, 24,000 miles, 1 owner, very sporty.....**£7,495**

60 **MERCEDES 160 Blue-Efficiency Sport** In black, 57,000 miles, amg alloys, bluetooth etc.....**£7,495**

62 **SEAT Ibiza 1.2 TSi SE 5-Dr Automatic** In silver, only 13,000 miles **£6,995**

12 **FORD Focus 1.6 Titanium 5-Dr** In silver, 70,000 miles, nice example **£6,995**

11 **CITREON C4 VTR 1.6 HDi Automatic** In silver, 33,000 miles with panoramic roof.....**£6,995**

10 **VOLVO C30 R-Design 2.0 Diesel** In met grey, 68,000 mile coupe **£6,795**

62 **FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 5-Dr** In white, 32,000 miles, with a/c alloys etc **£6,495**

12 **MERCEDES A160 Blue-Efficiency Avant Garde SE** In met blue, 54,000 miles, fantastic value **£6,495**

59 **MINI Cooper 1.6 Convertible** In pure silver, 68,000 miles ..... **REDUCED BY £500 TO £6,495**

58 **MAZDA CX7 2.3** In met grey with black leather, 44,000 miles, superb example 4x4 at **£6,495**

63 **SKODA Fabia 1.6 TDi (105) SE 5-Dr** In met grey, 50,000 miles, low road tax **£6,295**

62 **FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec 3-Dr** In silver, 20,000 miles, with a/c alloys etc **£6,295**

64 **RENAULT Zoe Dynamique Intens 5-Dr Automatic** In white, 10,000 miles, 1 owner, electric hatch ....**REDUCED BY £1000 TO £5,995**

63 **VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 Energy 3-Dr** In white, 20,000 miles, one owner **£5,995**

62 **SKODA Rapid SE TSi 5-Dr** In white, 59,958 miles, very nice example at **£5,995**

62 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.7 CDTi Active 5-Dr** In graphite grey, 78,000 mile, diesel **£5,995**

62 **FIAT Punto 1.4 Lounge 3-Dr** In bagatti blue, 41,000 miles, with glass roof, alloys etc.....**£5,995**

11 **MAZDA 3 1.6 Diesel TS 5-Dr** In white, 56,000 miles. £30 road tax.....**£5,995**

60 **SEAT Leon 1.2 TSi 'S' 5-Dr** In black, 43,000 miles. Good looking car **£5,995**

P **PORSCHE Boxster 2.5** In silver, with full leather trim, 73,000 miles, convertible **£5,995**

10 **VAUXHALL Zafira 1.7 CDTi Exclusive** In dark metalic grey, 41,000 miles, diesel 7-seater **£5,995**

09 **VOLVO C30 R-Design SE 2.0 Diesel Automatic** In black, 71,000 miles **£5,995**

60 **FORD Fiesta 1.4 Zetec 5-Dr** In hot magenta, 39,000 miles, 1 owner **£5,695**

60 **TOYOTA Auris 1.3 TR 5-Dr** In met red, 40,000 miles, family hatch **£5,695**

11 **VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Auto Exclusive 5-Dr** In silver, 51,000 miles **£5,495**

11 **TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 VVTi T-Spirit 5-Dr** In met-grey, 63,000 miles, high spec **£5,495**

10 **FORD Fiesta 1.4 Edge Automatic 5-Dr** In mulbury metalic, 41,000 miles **£5,495**

09 **FORD Fiesta 1.4 Titanium 3-Dr Automatic** In hot magenta, 53,000 miles **£5,495**

13 **CITROEN C1 Connexion 3-Dr 1.0** In met gun metal, only 10,000 miles, ultra modern car, free road tax .....**REDUCED BY £500 TO £4,995**

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09 **FORD Fiesta 1.2 Style+ 5-Dr** In silver, 52,000 miles, low insurance **£4,495**

59 **TOYOTA Yaris 1.3 TR 5-Dr** In red, 56,000 miles, 2 owners.....**£4,295**

08 **FORD Focus 2.0 Titanium 5-Dr Automatic** In met grey, 51,000 miles, local car **£4,295**

58 **FORD Mondeo 2.0 Zetec 5-Dr** In met silver, 65,000 miles, family hatch at **£4,295**

09 **SEAT Ibiza 1.2S 3-Dr** In nayara blue, 55,000 miles, low insurance..... **£3,995**

58 **MERCEDES A150 Classic SE** In met grey, 65,000 miles, 2 owners **£3,995**

58 **FORD Fiesta 1.2 Zetec (New Shape) 3-Dr** In black, very nice example at **£3,995**

62 **SUZUKI Alto 1.0 SZ3 5-Dr** In silver, 60,000 miles, free road tax..... **£3,495**

61 **CITROEN C1 1.0 VT 3-Dr** In white, 47,000 miles, low insurance and road tax **£3,495**

11 **SUZUKI Alto SZ3 1.0 5-Dr** In red, 47,000 miles, plus £20 road tax .....**REDUCED TO £3,295**

09 **FORD KA 1.2 Style New Shape** In magenta metalic, £30 road tax, low insurance..... **£2,995**

59 **CITROEN C3 1.4 VTR 5-Dr** In black, 54,000 miles, low insurance **£2,995**

08 **SKODA Fabia 2 HTP 70 1.2 5-Dr** In red, 65,000 miles, 1 owner **£2,995**

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The past captains are honoured at St Athan Golf Club celebration

THE first Friday of each October is always a special day for the past captains of St Athan Golf Club as it is the date that they set aside for their annual gathering.

This year's club captain, Craig Sherman had the honour of hosting the event, commencing with a 'meet and greet' followed by an 18 hole stableford golf competition for those still able to participate in the sport.

Unfortunately, many of the past captains are now restricted in their attendance at the club for various reasons, including ill health and living out of the area, but throughout the day they all had their own 'tales to tell' of their time spent at St Athan both on and off the course.

Nineteen former captains, resplendent in club jackets and ties, attended the presentation dinner with Craig chairing the evening at the head of the table and the immediate past captain, Taff Edwards at the bottom.

The others were seated in order of seniority on their year of captaincy, the earliest being Tony Brown who took the helm in 1983.

Craig opened his speech by thanking his counterparts for attending and inviting them to pass on their comments about the golf course; if they had enjoyed playing it and felt it was well presented then their remarks could be directed to him, any negative comments should be pointed towards the chairman of play.

This was a completely unbiased invitation and nothing to do with the fact that Craig is a member of the green-keeping staff and the chairman of play is Hugh Williams, the 2013 club captain.

Presentation of the past captain's trophy went to JWG Morgan (retaining the trophy from last year and now winning the title seven times) who carded a magnificent 41 points.

Hugh Williams and Mike Clark had to settle for second and third place, scoring 39 and 38 points respectively.

The evening culminated with all present enjoying jovial banter between themselves, cementing new found friendships and toasting the memory of absent friends.

St Athan is proud of its history; a members club who cater for green fee players but particularly welcome new social and playing members.

Please feel free to visit, alternatively phone 01446 751043 for further information.

CM

Go to our dedicated sports page for the latest stories and breaking news...
@sport_gem

School pupils shine for cricket team

Many pupils from Cowbridge Comprehensive School play for the Cowbridge under-15s cricket team. Congratulations to them as the team has won the double this year, the league and the Vale under-15s cup - well done!

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON Tuesday, October 4, a full programme of league matches in the Cowbridge Darts League was completed.

It was a good night for teams from the Edmondes Arms, the Edmondes C beat the Victoria Inn 7-2, the Edmondes A beat the Hairy Farmers 6-3 and the Edmondes B beat the Farmers Arms 6-3.

In the other matches the Six Bells Inn won 8-1 against the Red Lion and the Highwayman Inn defeated Llanharry Workingmens Club 6-3.

It was another evening of high quality darts with Nigel Thomas (Farmers Arms) hitting a 180 and Joan Burt (Read Lion) finishing on the bull.

High three darts out were achieved by Mark Hopkins (Victoria Inn) 70, Tony Fox (Farmers Arms) 72 and Martine Gaffney (Edmondes B) 95.

Present league standings, after four weeks, are: Edmondes B (29 points), Edmondes A and Six Bells Inn (24), Highwayman Inn (20), Edmondes C (19), Farmers Arms (18), Llanharry and Hairy Farmers (15), Victoria Inn (14) and Red Lion (2).

Next week, Tuesday, October 18, the first rounds of the Mixed Doubles knockout competition will be held.

The host pubs will be the Six Bells Inn and the Victoria Inn.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are always welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

Ben's judo success

BEN MOORE, a year-7 pupil at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, has had a busy weekend with regards to sport.

On Saturday he competed and won the British schools regional qualifier event for Wales gaining him qualification for the British schools judo championships 2017.

On Sunday, he then made his way to Edinburgh in Scotland to compete in the British Judo Association (BJA) championships where he competed in the under-12s category and won gold making him British Minors Champion 2016.

Bears and Tigers in rugby action

COWBRIDGE under-11s' scintillating form on the rugby pitch continued this week with our friends from Pentyrch visiting on another sunny October morning.

The opposition requested the Cowbridge squad were split into the Bears and Tigers so that both squads could be tested a week ahead of the District Festival.

First up were the Bears who immediately put the Tyrchs under pressure from the kick off. Speed at the breakdown and ferocious tackling built the home team's dominance, culminating in quick ball feeding Harry New and a run to the corner for the opener.

Cowbridge could sense that they had the mark of their opposition, continually winning the contest at the ruck creating the platform for the backs to work the ball through the hands with Harry New, Joe Davies and Owen Francis benefiting from the well-developed game play to take the lead to 4-0 at half-time.

The second half continued in a similar vein with the Tyrchs showing signs of tiring under the continual pressure.

James Collingridge secured the fifth following the powerful running and quick off-load from James Lord. With the Tyrchs having to kick the ball from their own try line James Lord was then the beneficiary of the pick up and return run from Jake Davies setting up the counter attack.

The Bears just failed to keep a clean sheet with the Tyrchs picking up a late consolation try.

Not wanting the last word to go to the opposition, the Bears' crunching tackles freed up the ball and James Collingridge weaved through with a classic dummy run to seal the victory, 7-1.

The Tigers started just as strongly as the Bears with powerful running and strength in the tackle.

The team turned the ball over in the ruck allowing Paddy Whitestone the opportunity to show his speed and run in from the wing.

A similar story developed with fantastic tackling and work from the forwards supplying the ball at will amongst the backs and strong running notching up tries for Harry Smith, Owen Francis, Ben Stephenson and Josh Canning making it 5-0 at half-time.

The Tyrch's half-time team talk provided some words for thought and they came out with a point to prove, smashing through from the kick-off for a quick try.

The Tigers didn't want the lead to slip any further and the resurgence was short-lived for the opposition, a fine solo run from Owen Francis re-applied the pressure at 6-1.

Eager to close off the game the Tigers were a little too excited and penalised for persistent infringement at the offside line, with a penalty try to Pentyrch.

However, as in the earlier game, the last word went to Cowbridge with unselfish passing along the backline allowing Paddy Whitestone to stretch the lead to 7-2 and then add a further with a trademark crossfield sprint around the defence.

Final score 8-2.

The strength and depth of the squad is a delight to watch each week and a real credit to the coaching team. Well done all.

DT

FRUSTRATION AS POINTS ARE DROPPED IN QUALIFIERS...

Two draws see Wales stumble on the road to World Cup 2018

Action from Vienna as (above) Sam Vokes celebrates Kurt Wimmer's own goal after Marko Arnautovic (below) had levelled the scores for Austria.

by GARETH JAMIESON

HAVING started their road to Russia with an emphatic 4-0 win over Moldova last month, Wales' next two games represented different tests.

An away trip to Group D's second seeds Austria represented the toughest test, arguably of the campaign as a whole, last Thursday, before a home date with Georgia at the Cardiff City Stadium on Sunday.

It says much about the way Wales have developed under Chris Coleman that you can view a middling performance in Vienna, which saw Wales twice take the lead, and a well-earned point as slightly disappointing.

However, Coleman was quick to admit after the game that: "If you can get something when you are not at your best it is a good sign. We made trouble for ourselves, that's not like us. We can play a lot better but we can't fight any harder than that."

It started so well for Wales, when, after an opening that saw both goalkeepers at their best to prevent the deadlock being broken, Joe Allen's sweetly-struck half-volley beat the Austrian goalkeeper Almer to send the near 4,000 away supporters into raptures.

But Austria are a tricky side to beat; while their showing in the Euros was pretty poor, the fact that they went into this game having won their past 10 qualifiers and were also unbeaten in competitive matches at home since 2012 showed how difficult a side they would be to defeat.

If Wales rode the storm of the expected home pressure well after taking the lead, they were undone when a dink over the defence saw Arnautovic nod past Wayne Hennessey, the Austrians deservedly levelling matters.

Austria's manager Marcel Koller had claimed that Wales' Euros success was down to 'luck', so it was ironic that luck played a part in Wales retaking the lead.

James Chester's header from Bale's long throw (a new weapon in the Welsh arsenal) was saved by Almer, only for the ball to ricochet off Kevin Wimmer and creep into the net.

At 2-1 Wales had arguably ridden their luck a little, but the key was to see out the first half and then start the second on the front foot.

However, Arnautovic wasn't paying attention to that, and when Chester failed to control Allen's weak pass, the Stoke City winger took full advantage and pegged Wales back for a second time.

It was a case of backs to the wall after that, both teams having half-chances to go in front but these were not taken, and it was Wales who were arguably the happier of the two teams come the final whistle, a result that saw all the teams in the group (bar Georgia and Moldova) locked on four points apiece.

On to Sunday, and with another sell-out crowd at the Cardiff City Stadium, expectations were that, having put in the hard work in Vienna, Coleman's team would put the other 'minnows' of the group, Georgia, to the sword in much the same way they had Moldova last month.

It seemed all was going to plan when Bale headed home from Joe Ledley's pinpoint corner in the 10th minute, the early goal that had proved so hard to come by the previous month coming with relative ease.

However, Wales' need to put their opponents to the sword and grab what would likely have been a decisive second goal proved fruitless.

Wales' passing game was sloppy, with many passes going straight out of play, and the route one approach of playing the ball high to Sam Vokes yielded little that was positive.

It was a strangely flat and lifeless performance, the first half petering out with the Welsh doing little to double their lead and the visitors offering stubborn resistance.

The second half didn't prove to be much better, the much-needed intensity from Coleman's team lacking and Georgia, sensing the home side's torpor, decided to take the game to their hosts, flooding the midfield and putting pressure on a Welsh back-line that, yet again, looked far from the formidable unit of recent games.

When Georgian pressure led to a cross into the box, it was Tornike Okriashvili who benefited, the Welsh defence static as he headed home to level the scores and stun the crowd.

To say it was a shock would be unfair, as the Georgians had looked the team most likely to score, and the goal drew a boisterous reply from the 32,000 fans as they tried to boost the home players.

For all the chanting, shouting and screaming, it went from bad to worse as Wales were outplayed by the visitors, and while the men in red threw everything at the Georgian defence, it was the latter who had the clear-cut opportunities to win the game, Levan Mchedlidze shooting wide when one-on-one with Wayne Hennessey and Valeri Kazaishvili hitting the bar.

As the final whistle blew, any sense of surprise that Wales had failed to take the three points was tempered by a performance that came nowhere near deserving a victory and, arguably, one where the point earned could be seen as fortunate.

While neither performance in these latest qualifiers was a great one from Chris Coleman's team, and while both games earned a point, the difference between these two results is clear.

To have gained a draw in the tricky environment of Vienna was a great point; to have been held, and outplayed, by a Georgia side who, although better than their world ranking of 137th suggests, should have been beaten, is a case of two points dropped.

As Serbia and the Republic of Ireland moved into the top two places on Sunday evening, two points clear of third-placed Wales, the enormity of the task next month at home to Serbia now sinks in.

Three points are a must in a match that should hopefully see the return of both Aaron Ramsey and Joe Allen (who missed the Georgia game with a hamstring injury).

But as much as those players returning would provide a major fillip, both Coleman and the team need to look at what hasn't worked so far in these qualifiers and rectify it as soon as possible.

The defence has looked creaky, our normally fluid passing game sloppy, and while Sam Vokes is a greater goal threat, Hal Robson Kanu's ability to hold up the ball and bring players into the game needs to be used.

Coleman himself wasn't shy about tackling the subject head on in his post-match press conference: "We've had a little slap around the back of the head to say, 'Hold on, it's not all plain sailing'. We looked fatigued, we looked disjointed... (but) I'd have been amazed if we'd gone through the campaign without a blip."

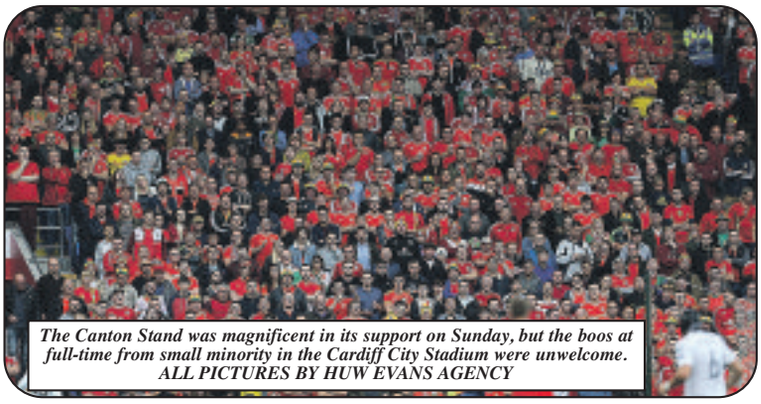
It would also help that the team aren't subjected to catcalls and jeers as they were by a small minority on Sunday evening.

Yes, the result wasn't what was hoped for and the performance certainly wasn't a particularly good one, but the booing was out of place and inexcusable.

Perhaps it's the groundswell of post-Euro 2016 support that has seen those who were swept along by Wales' success snap up the tickets that are likely to see all the home qualifiers sell-out; these fans are used to Wales winning so anything less than that is met with apathy or misplaced hatred.

However, for those fans who have sat through the dark days of losing 5-1 at home to Slovakia, who travelled to Novi Sad to see us thumped 6-1 by Serbia, this result wasn't the end of the world – it was, as Coleman said, a 'blip' and one that will hopefully be forgotten about next month.

We're only three games into the qualifying group and there's plenty more twists and turns before all is said and done – but three points next month would be the perfect medicine to cure the lethargy of Sunday.



The Canton Stand was magnificent in its support on Sunday, but the boos at full-time from small minority in the Cardiff City Stadium were unwelcome. ALL PICTURES BY HUW EVANS AGENCY

The ecstasy and the agony... Gareth Bale heads Wales in front (left) and feels the frustration at the final whistle.

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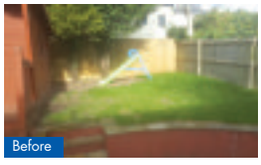

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